Voting of Demands for Grants.

1. XIV.—General Administration—Rs. 82,483.

Rama Varmha Tampuran —Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 82,483 under XIV—General Administration. This amount includes the cost of the Huzur Secretariat, the Legislative Council and the staff specially entertained for the Census. The corresponding figure of the revised estimate for the present year, 1106, is Rs. 85,701. There is a reduction of about Rs. 3,300 in the next year's allotment, and the main reason for that is due to the possible abolition of the Census staff some time towards the close of next year. In the Huzur or the Legislative Council Office there is, I may say, absolutely no change from the figures of 1106 and I do not think any explanations regarding those two items are called for. About the Census, I may, for the information of the House, just state that the Superintendent is proposed to be retained till the 1st of July 1932. The present clerical staff is proposed to be retained till the 1st of Makaram after which a reduced staff wi l have to be continued till the 1st of July. The present Tabulation staff will continue unchanged till the 1st of Thulam after which there will be reduction and the reduced staff will continue till the 1st of Vrischigam. These dry details will account the total for the Census staff and it is the possibility of their being abolished some time next year that gives the reduction in the total under General Administration. I do not think any further details require elucidation at present. Therefore, I request that the House may be pleased to vote the grant of Rs. 82,483 under XIV—General Administration.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.— *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 56,640 for Huzur Secretariat by Re. 1.*

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Sir, I do not at all feel disappointed in having to move the first cut motion in this Assembly which, happily for all concerned, has established a new era of co-operation and mutual trust. (*Hear, hear*). As was observed by the Finance Member in the concluding portion of his speech, he, on behalf of Government, has assured us that Government are taking or making strenuous efforts to act up to the wishes of the Council. That we on this side of the House have equally, with the Government, accepted that principle, and to show that we have also made up our minds to extend to the highest limit possible all the co-operation and good will that we can c ›mmand, is a proof of the fact that a new era has dawned upon the Council of Cochin. It is a matter for congratulation that in the sister State of Travancore, during the discussion of the budget on the

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first two days, the Cochin Council was mentioned more than once as a model to be followed (*Hear, hear*). And yesterday we had the testimony of the Leader of the House that, during his sojourn in Upper India, visiting many Native States, from his observations he was able to assure the House that the Cochin Council can hold its own against any that he has visited. Such being the relationship that has been happily established, I say I do not feel disappointed in having to move a cut motion to-day. That itself supplies a proof of the change in the angle of vision of not only the Government but of the Council as a whole. Because you will find from the programmes that have been supplied here for the four days, though they contain cut motions to the number of about 150, there are only four motions which go over one rupee. In other words it established the fact that we are not unwilling to extend our co-operation to grant the full amounts, as asked by the Government; but we would only offer a few suggestions by way of cut motions. Therefore we have limited the amount to one rupee and one rupee alone, with the exception of four items which carry the amounts a little more.

I am happy in this connection to say that the first cut motion that I have to move is one which will appeal to the sense of the House as a whole, including the Treasury Benches. The cut motion that I move is to request the Government to take up the printing of a revised edition of the Cochin State Manual, incorporating up-to-date informations on the various matters dealt within the first edition. I do not think that any speech is necessary to establish the necessity of revising that time-honoured and valuable contribution to the literature on the subject. If I remember correctly, the edition that is in existence now was printed in 1912. I have the authority of the author of that treatise to say that it was prepared in a hurry because it was thought necessary that it should be published before a certain event, namely, the departure of the then Diwan Sir A. R. Banerji. I have also the authority of the author, that due to hasty preparation, a few errors have crept in. But the most important reason for printing a revised edition is something different. Though the preparation began in 1911, the census figures of 1911 were not available at the time of publication. In other words, the figures appearing there are of 1901 and therefore we are carried back to a period of 30 years during which we have made progress not only in population but also under various other departments and activities of the Government. Therefore we, having completed the census operation of 1931, in the point of population also we can be up-to-date if a revised edition is undertaken. As for material improvements effected and progress made in several walks of life, it is not necessary

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for me to say what has been the progress of the State during 30 years. They are certainly matters which require to be preserved and preserved in proper form. Where else can we have an authoritative statement of all these, unless it be in a State Manual? In other States as well, we find that occasional revisions are made with regard to such publications; the latest instance that has come to my notice is the Mysore Gazetteer which was prepared 30 years ago by Mr. Rice which has been revised lately by Mr. Hayananda Rao. I do not think I should give the other reasons that might be urged for the necessity for the revision, but with these few facts and relying upon the necessity as evidenced by the progress that Cochin has made during the 30 years, I request the Government may be pleased to accept this resolution.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—I second the resolution and in doing so I may be permitted to observe that, in the absence of an authoritative publication by the State, furnishing important particulars with regard to the people and the administration, outsiders coming to this State find it very difficult to have correct information about them. In the absence of an authoritative and official publication they have to resort to un-official publications which cannot be exhaustive. I had occasion to ask friends who desired information to refer to the Madras States Directory published by that enterprising journalist, Mr. Satchit. With regard to the revision of the State Manual I may be permitted to request the Government to entrust it to a competent gentleman or a committee of writers for revision. Government should be pleased to take care that the work is entrusted to competent hands. Mr. C. Achyuta Menon, though in a hurry, has written the State Manual in a most admirable way. The House will be pleased to note that the Travancore State Manual consists of seven volumes or so. The author of the Cochin State Manual has condensed a large mass of matter within a small compass, say, in about 300 pages. With these words I second the resolution and request the Government that the revision matter may be taken up immediately.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There is no objection to look into the matter and see in which way it could be carried out. I do not know how far there will be necessity for a wholesale re-print. If there is the necessity for that it will be done; anyhow every endeavour will be made to bring the information contained in that book up-to-date. Whether a reprint is necessary or not could be decided only after careful perusal of the book. Anyhow I can assure the House that the information contained in the book will be brought up-to-date.

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Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—May I know whether all the old books have been sold out?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think so.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—A few unbound books are lying in the Government Press. In the light of the assurance given by the Hon'ble the Secretary to the Diwan, I withdraw the motion with the leave of the House.

The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 2.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 56,640 for establishment by Re. 1.*

President.—Motion No. 2 also stands in your name.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Sir, that motion is one to which I invite the earnest attention of both sides of the House, both on account of the principle as well as of necessity. That resolution, as I have pointed out in the slip I have sent, is to express the regret of the House in the Government not making any contribution to Municipalities and thereby retarding the healthy development of self-governing institutions of the State. I do not think it necessary for me to go into the history of these contributions or of the reasons and times at which these contributions ceased to be made. Without much fear of contradiction I may say that the Government was making some contributions to Municipalities from their very inception, and till about 1102 the contributions varied between two thousand and seventeen thousand rupees per year, so far as at least the Ernakulam Municipality was concerned. In 1102 there has been a change of attitude and certain principles, which I shall refer to later on, were relied on to refuse all grants to Municipalities as such. One method that was adopted was to give certain contributions to the Sanitary Department and say, that because the Government have made these contributions to the Sanitary Department which functions in Municipal areas as well, the Government have not thought it necessary to give separate grants or contributions to Municipalities. Again it was said that the principle underlying Municipal Administration is that they should be able to stand upon their own legs. Though these principles are sound in themselves their application can be made only if circumstances permit with reference to localities and to the ability of the Municipalities themselves to stand upon their own legs. I invite the attention of the House to certain passages in the order which was passed on the recommendations of the Special Finance Committee. The Committee after mature deliberation enunciated the principle that it was the duty of Government to make contributions to Municipalities created by them. The pro-

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posals of the Committee are contained on page 11 of the Order. "The expenditure now incurred by the Government on account of contribution to Municipalities and of works in connection with town improvement schemes fluctuates considerably and so it will be advantageous and convenient to the Government as well as to the Municipalities to have the annual contribution fixed and paid in a lump at the beginning of each year. The Committee would fix the contributions to the Municipality with reference to its necessities and to the length of trunk roads transferred to it for maintenance and repair and the Government buildings and conveyances exempted from tax and toll." On this basis the Committee recommended certain definite sums by way of contribution which ought to be made by Government to Municipalities. But unfortunately for the Municipalities, Government seems to have discovered—in the phraseology used by the Committee when they said the "necessities and to the length of trunk road transferred to it for maintenance and repair"—the long desired "Axe". Because, after this came to light, another argument, as I submitted before, was advanced by Government by saying that contribution could not be given because trunk roads were undertaken to be maintained by the Government. That in itself has a history of its own. These trunk roads—when they say—were taken over by Government, they are not correct in saying so; because it is only a portion of the trunk roads that have been taken. And it will also be found that that is an act which was not done at the request of the Municipalities in general or at least by the Ernakulam Municipality in particular. I know that some Municipalities did not object to the taking over of the maintenance of some of the trunk roads. They were satisfied because they thought so much bother was taken out of their hands. But some Municipalities did not appreciate the idea because of the services that they were expected to do was not in keeping with the traditions of Municipalities or of Municipal Government.

In this connection I may just read a few words which will show the attitude which the Government ought to take towards Municipalities. I am not using my own language but I am using the language of the Government of Bombay:—

"The Government remind Municipalities and other local bodies that they have been created not only to train people in the art of local self-Government, but also to relieve Government of the direct administration of certain matters of mainly local interest. Local bodies are therefore an integral part of the system of administration. That system can only continue to function if the various subordinate authorities on whom administrative functions have devolved work in harmony and co-

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operate with the carrying on of the administration". Therefore such being the position that foreign Governments or Provincial Governments think of the relationship between Government and Municipality, to deprive the Municipalities of their legitimate function, I submit, is hardly a justifiable act, much less that deprivation to be taken account of or rather to be made the reason for saying that no contribution should be made.

Now from the very proceedings that I have read out it will be found where from the materials relied on by the Special Finance Committee were obtained and which formed the basis of their recommendations. But Government took a view that it is not at all necessary to give contributions to Municipalities. In the same Proceedings at page 13 it will be found said "Government cannot bind themselves to give contributions like these every year, much less fixed contribution irrespective of the necessity.' Of course I must here add that no demand was at any time made by any Municipality irrespective of necessity. The Government adds further that "The Chief Engineer pointed out that, the Municipalities in Travancore after a few years working were able not only to maintain their roads, but also began to open new roads from their income without approaching Government for help." Now that to me at least appears to be the most unkindest cut of all. That information alleged to be supplied by the Chief Engineer, I can hardly endorse because the authoritative publication of the Travancore Government shows that facts are otherwise. On referring to the Administration Report of Travancore for the year 1104 it will be found that no roads are being practically maintained by the Municipalities in Travancore. I rely on page 155 of the report wherein it is said (paragraph 6) :—

"The Government alone are responsible for all the roads in Travancore. Within the past few years, however, a few of the Municipal Councils have taken over the maintenance of non-arterial roads within their jurisdiction, *on payment by Government of grants on a sliding scale*".

Therefore that theory that Travancore Municipalities have been able to construct roads out of their own funds is hardly correct, when we find as a matter of fact that all the roads are being constructed and maintained by Government and Government only. As a matter of fact, of the 19 Municipalities, if I remember correctly, there is only one Municipality out of the 19 that has been maintaining a few of the roads within the Municipal area. That is the Alleppey Municipality. Very probably this information at the disposal of Government might have had some effect in making the Government arrive at the conclusion that no grants are necessary. Even there I would

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respectfully beg to submit that the maintenance of a few miles of roads (so far as Ernakulam is concerned, out of the 20 or 25 miles of roads 4 miles or so is alone maintained by the D. P. W.) cannot absolve the Government from the duty of contributing to Municipal funds as a matter of principle. Therefore it is my humble request that this matter may be taken serious notice of and contributions on any scale may be made as a matter of principle. Now it is said in the Proceedings that the Council Members were not able to fix the standard upon which the contributions are to be made. I do not know whether serious notice was taken of the resolution when it was moved, because a little reflection will show that ample materials are available to fix the contribution upon the average struck by the Special Finance Committee. It is a fact that before the intro-introduction of Municipality in Ernakulam an amount of Rs. 5,500 was set apart for the maintenance and repair of roads by Government. I do not see why that contribution, why that amount should not be contributed by the Government though it is handed over for maintenance to the Municipality. Now we find that a pretty large amount, if I remember correctly, it is 13,000 rupees, was allotted for town improvement in Ernakulam in 1106 and the question was asked whether that amount included the maintenance, special repairs, etc., of the trunk roads also. It was answered in affirmative. This year we find that the amount has been reduced to 4,200 rupees or so. Now last year it was said, to maintain trunk roads in proper order a sum of Rs. 850 per mile was necessary. Now if we find the average expenditure will be Rs. 850 per mile for maintaining the trunk roads in proper order, I do not know what amount will be necessary to maintain 20 or 25 miles of road in Ernakulam in proper condition. No doubt the Chief Engineer in some place or other has said that it is necessary to divide roads into three classes and to fix the allotment at Rs. 400, Rs. 300, and Rs. 200, for the separate classes. I do not know why Rs. 400 alone is necessary for maintenance of first class roads for the Municipality when that Department requires Rs. 850. Therefore these amounts are fixed without reference to the necessity or with regard to the expediency of utilising the funds. Now that is immaterial. I am here on the principle of contribution by Government to Municipalities. The general reason that is assigned for refusing contribution to Municipalities is that they are expected to stand on their own legs. I wish to know which Municipality, not only in the Native States but in the whole of India, which has stood on its own legs from their infancy without the assistance of Government help. If I remember correctly, the Madras Corporation is still receiving grant from Government

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apart from the huge loans that are allowed to be raised by Municipalities for municipal work. Here when a loan of Rs. 3 lakhs was asked for, all that was granted was only Rs. 50,000. Then it was subsequently increased by another Rs. 50,000.

But they are all ear-marked for particular purposes and they will not and cannot be used for general purposes because then that will be a violation of the conditions imposed upon the grant. Therefore I say, seeing that it is not possible to carry on Municipal Administration efficiently without substantial help from Government, contributions must be made as a matter of principle. To take the latest instance that has come to my knowledge—that is about the request made by the Ernakulam Municipality that a place for dumping night soil is urgently needed, because the one that is in use is 18 or 20 years in use. Therefore it is high time to find a place, and even that was not granted. So it cannot be said that there is no necessity. I presume that perhaps one of the reasons for saying that no grant need be made is financial stringency. In this particular year perhaps it may be said that general economic depression has constrained the Government to stop all grants which are not absolutely necessary. I ask in all humility whether these things—at least want of a place for dumping night soil in Ernakulam—is it not an absolute necessity? And if that is not done what will be the nature of the health of the people and we are expected to be custodians of the health of the people under our charge and even if such necessities are not seriously taken into consideration, certainly it is high time to look carefully into the matter.

Only one word more. How far financial difficulties have stood in the way of the Government making grant? I have only to bring to the notice of the House one illustration. If my calculations are correct, travelling allowance provided for 1107 is perhaps in excess of the revised estimate of 1106 by about six or seven thousand rupees. If there was an attempt at retrenchment certainly it could be only in a place where they could be postponed or minimised. Travelling allowance certainly is one of the directions in which retrenchment could be effected, and it is also clear from the Hon'ble the Finance Member's speech that strenuous efforts to cut of the expenditure under the head T.A. are being made. At any rate it is immaterial. When we find absolute necessity for a grant I have only to request that something may be given as a matter of principle to Municipalities every year.

Mr. Popatlal Lalan.—I second it.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Sir, I beg to support this motion. Sir, you have seen Ernakulam; you have seen Trichur

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and I am sure you have also seen Chittur and also you might have known about it from the papers at present under your consideration. Now the Municipal Councils of Ernakulam and Trichur have enjoyed the amenities of Municipal administration long before the Municipalities came into existence because of the great personages who were there. Chittur is a rural place and nobody goes there to see what it is. Last year this House was reluctant to give the 10,000 rupees which the ex-Divan had promised. There was reason enough for that. The Chittur Municipality is suffering from lack of funds and they were told that this amount would be budgetted this year. But I fail to see that. We have been depending on the tolls. This time the toll bidding was very low owing to the fear that rentals would be cut down when the Railway was opened and the roads were barred for maintenance. Without this amount advanced to us I do not think it is possible to carry on the work of Municipal administration this year. Therefore I request the Government to reconsider our position.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, I am sorry that I am not able to see eye to eye with the Hon'ble Members who spoke for the motion. As one coming from a Municipality, it would have been a very pleasing matter for me to join with them to carry the motion. But the motion violates a principle. We representing the towns as well as the villages, have to see what the Government have already done for the towns and how far the Government have neglected the development of rural areas. The Municipalities—formerly Town Councils—have been in existence in the State for nearly 21 years. From my experience and from what I have been able to learn, I can say that the Government have been very liberal towards these institutions, not only at the initial stages but even after they had grown. A time must certainly come in the case of these Municipalities when Government must stop lavishing money on them. It is not only Municipalities that the Government have to care for. Certainly they are the bigger places for the Government's care. But there are also the villages on which the Government have to bestow attention. I shall here read a few lines from the Administration Report of the State for the year 1091. Having considered the whole question Mr. (now Sir) J. W. Bhore says at page 49 of the report:—"There is still much to be learnt however and in the forefront is the lesson of bearing willingly self-imposed financial burdens. At present Municipal taxation is light and Councils depend on Government subventions to meet their ordinary legitimate expenditure. No sense of financial responsibility can possibly develop if Government is to meet all deficits and it is necessary

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that Councils should, except in the matter of large projects of public utility obviously beyond their means, learn to stand on their own feet and strive to attain financial independence by the imposition of heavier taxation. If self-Government is worth having, it is worth paying for." Sir, I do not find any reason to differ from the view expressed therein. That view does not totally exclude any grant being given to the Municipalities. If such works have to be undertaken which, without financial help Municipalities cannot undertake, then certainly the Government must come to their aid. And we know that the Government have to come to their aid in respect of such matters. It is not the Ernakulam Municipality that is supplying water to Ernakulam. It is not the Trichur Municipality that supplies water to Trichur. The Government have spent large amounts at Mattancheri and Chittur. The water for Mattancheri is supplied by the Government. We thus see that whenever great schemes have to be undertaken which cannot be financed by the Municipalities the Government have always come to the aid of the Municipalities. But, beyond that, to ask the Government to pay every year some amount to the Municipalities as a recurring contribution, is going to far. By doing so you make the starving villages starve further. In regard to the Municipalities themselves, I for one, do not think that the present income is insufficient to meet their normal demands. Coming from Trichur where toll alone brings over 70,000 rupees, I cannot say that the Municipality is starving for want of funds. That Municipality has much more than it knows how to spend. What is it that that Municipality looks after, at present? It looks after lighting, it looks after sanitation and it looks after the maintenance of a few roads. What further expenditure has that Municipality to meet? The town has not grown considerably during the last 5 or 6 years. But the income has more than doubled itself. And yet we still see the poor roads, the poor lighting, the poor sanitation and the poor so many things that we were seeing in Trichur during the last many years. And these not for want of funds. Can you say that an income of over 1,50,000 rupees is a small income for a Municipality like Trichur? I say there is a lot of waste in Trichur. The Municipality is not careful in regard to expenditure. What the Municipalities have to do is carefully to husband their resources and properly spend their income on necessities. Having made a resonable budget, then, if there is a defict, approach the Government rather than saying that the Government ought to contribute some amount every year. Let us say that the Municipalities ought to spend their income carefully and that if there are deficits, the Governmet ought to help them, as they have been helping them in times

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of need. Only last year this Council had the privilege of rejecting a demand by the Government to grant 10,000 rupees for the Chittur Municipality for building its office. Are we going to reverse the policy then approved? I think not.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I have'nt any thing to dispute with the figures and facts stated by the mover of the cut motion. I can accept all the figures and facts that he placed before the Council. But I fail to understand how the Member arrived at quite a different conclusion from what the Government have arrived at. I will go through the facts and figures once more, Sir. The Member was kind enough to read a D. P. reviewing the recommendations of this House and the recommendations of the Special Finance Committee about fixed grants. That D. P., as the Member clearly stated, only said that fixed grants on principle are objectionable. It never stated that grants won't be given when necessities arise. It simply stated on principle that to allot a definite amount for a number of years as grant to each Municipality was objectionable and that the Government have no reason to think to be wrong even now. Another thing the Member was kind enough to refer to was that Travancore out of the 19 Municipalities, only one Municipality has yet started to maintain a few of their roads. If that is a fact I also quite agree with it. Because as I understand the very problem, or the crux of the problem so to say, lying hidden in the present cut motion is about the transfer of the trunk roads from the Municipalities to the D. P. W. budget. I say this advisedly ; because once that principle is granted then all these amounts of Rs. 4,500 for works in connection with the Mattancheri Town Improvement, Rs. 4,750 for works in connection with the Ernakulam Town Improvement scheme, Rs. 16,000 for Trichur Town Improvement and Rs. 6,250 for Chittur-Tattamangalam works—all these four are big amounts. Rs. 4,500 Rs. 4,750, Rs. 16,000 and Rs. 6,250 would really be a contribution to the Municipalities. The only difference then will be that instead of putting these figures on page 68 the Member would like to have them put on page 67. That will be the only difference between the Member and the Government in the matter. Because, prior to this taking over the charge of these roads, the Municipalities themselves had to spend Rs. 4,500, Rs. 6,250, Rs. 16,000 and Rs. 4,750 for the roads under their control. The Government have taken away these roads along with the responsibility of maintaining those roads without at the same time touching toll collections the Municipalities are collecting. Tolls, I suppose, are primarily intended to maintain roads—a good portion at least. And therefore when all the trunk roads are taken by the Government without at the same

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time curtailing the receipts under toll collection, I do not understand how it could be said that the Municipalities are not being helped by the Government. I emphatically state that the Municipalities are being helped and the amounts that are provided on page 68 are virtually contributions to the Municipalities. Well, Sir, I have not then much more to say. Perhaps one or two specific items that the Member referred to, *e. g.*, contribution required for a trenching ground for which the Municipality cannot find funds, etc., require mention. Because after all I do not think the work referred to is a very very costly venture. I think the Municipality had asked for 12,000 rupees. Similarly a sum of 10,000 rupees for the Chittur Municipality was asked for and the Mattancheri Municipality also asked for a sum of about 10 or 12 thousand rupees for a good Travellers' Bungalow there. Now if even for these small items like Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 12,000 of more or less a recurring kind Municipalities cannot find funds to be met from their income, I think it will be difficult for the Government either to find funds at these hard times. I do not know how it will be possible to give additional contributions when contributions of Rs. 4,500, Rs. 4,750, Rs. 16,000 and Rs. 6,250 have already been made. The whole crux of the problem, I would put it, is about the advisability of transferring these roads into the D. P. W. If that principle is conceded the question of contribution never rises at all.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—There was a demand from the Chittur Municipality for a grant of 10,000 rupees and they were told that that would be included in the next year's budget.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The Chittur Municipality gets an amount of Rs. 6,250 under this head.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—My party has brought this token motion. It involves a very sound principle.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, the Member cannot speak after tne Government Member has replied.

President.—Yes; I looked round the House to see whether any other Honourable Member had to speak, before I asked the Government Member to speak. I hope that no other Member intended to speak.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, the usual procedure was, after moving the cut motion, the Government side used to reply. Only one or two Members would speak at the beginning and then after the Government reply the rest of the House takes part in it. That was the usual practice.

President.—The Government Member is to speak last and no other Member except the mover can speak after that. But the Hon'ble Member will now proceed with his speach.

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Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—I found the Government Member on his legs and I did not want to interrupt.

I venture to point out that the motion is one involving a vital principle. The question is whether the time has come to leave the Municipalities to themselves to find out funds. Have they reached a stage when they can afford to be self-supporting? Now it is to be remembered that the Municipalities are still in a stage of tutelage, *i. e.*, the guardianship of Government. The Municipal budgets have all to be sent up to and approved of by the Government, before anything is done. So the accusation made by a certain Member of the House that Municipalities have enough funds which are not properly looked after but are wasted, does not seem to be well-founded. In regard to works carried on by the Municipalities there is a Government officer, an Assistant Engineer or some officer of the Engineering Department, to supervise them. All these items of expenditure, excepting a few trivial ones, are directly supervised by the officers of Government. In spite of this check, it is seen that our Municipalities are not able to make both ends meet. That is why Governmental help is being asked for from time to time. I may also, in this connection, point out that the Municipalities are not now receiving all the collections which they are entitled to receive. So far as Trichur is concerned the Sirkar collects all the taxes in regard to lands within the Municipal area. There are several other items, which on a comparison of the collections made by Municipal Corporations elsewhere, might really go into the coffers of the Municipalities. A Municipality is allowed to collect receipts from certain items, and the Government is collecting the remaining amounts, legitimately due to the Municipalities. Similarly in Ernakulam also, some collections legitimately due to the Municipality such as ferry-bids are collected by Government. Speaking about the Trichur Municipality, Government has on more than one occasion, although not in so many written words, held out the hope that the Municipality would be given a habitation of its own. The Trichur Municipal Office is now held in the Sathram. The Municipal Office staff have to rub shoulders with the resident visitors of the Sathram. And there are very many amenities of life which the Trichur Municipality could have provided, had not Government insisted upon the repayment of the loan unto the last pie. Again, the Trichur Municipality had to pay interest upon the loans, whereas, Government in whose Treasuries all Municipal funds were deposited, was not paying any interest at all upon these deposits. The interest calculated at the same rate upon the amounts deposited in the Treasuries, annually would have worked out a larger figure than the amount of inter-

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est upon the loans taken by the Municipality. It is on account of these conditions, and the heavy debt hanging upon the Municipality, that the Municipal administration did not prove to be so successful as one would have expected. Therefore, upon this matter of principle and without digressing upon the subject, I maintain that the time has not come to leave the Municipalities alone. There was no allotment last year and we find no allotment provided for this year too. Allotments for trunk roads are really not contributions. The Municipality never said 'We cannot manage the trunk roads'. The trunk roads were taken over without the request of the Municipalities. They were taken over by Government for purposes other than Municipal, and Government naturally maintains them. A comparison of figures will clearly show that our Municipalities are able to carry on the management of these concerns, as also the construction of buildings and all public works cheaper than the P. W. D. What the Municipalities still say is 'Give us back the management of the trunk roads. Government need not spend any money on them'. We, therefore, want Government to realise the situation, and we do not contend that any definite sum should be allowed in a given year. The time has not arrived when Governmental help should cease. It is no sufficient answer to say that whenever necessity arises Governmental help would be forthcoming.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not want to add much more to what I have said already. But I still fail to see how these amounts could not be viewed as a contribution by the Government to the Municipality. It may be my inability to see it in any other light. A part of the work that has been done out of receipts by a body has been taken away by another body without touching the corresponding receipts of that body; and if in such a situation it could not be said that the second body has contributed something to the first, I still fail to see in which other light could it be interpreted. As to the other criticism that the Municipalities did not want these roads to be taken over or that the Government did it for some non-Municipal purpose, I would invite the attention o fthe previous speaker to the discussions on the adjournment motion and to the detailed reply that I gave on that occasion as a result of which the mover of the motion himself withdrew the motion. I would respectfully draw the attention of the Member and the House to the reply that I gave then and from there to judge how far the Government were right or wrong in adopting this policy. Any how so long as a part of the expenditure of the Municipality that has been previously met by the Municipality is now being met by the Government without thereby curtailing their receipts, I do

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fail to see how these amounts cannot be regarded as a contribution to the Municipality.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—The net result of the Hon'ble Secretary's reply, to my mind, seems to be that the Government are contributing to Municipalities though in a form which is not accepted by the Municipalities as a contribution. In substance it is the same thing. It is only a change of pages in the budget that is necessary, and therefore it is not worth much to say that no contribution is made. In other words if I interpret correctly, the principle of the necessity of contribution is practically accepted by the Government. Whether the way in which it is being done is the true form or not is the only question. Am I right? I do not know. But I think that the interpretation that any money intended ultimately to be spent for the use of the Municipality will amount to a contribution to the Municipality, I am yet to learn, because a contribution once it is given is to be spent by the person to whom it is contributed. I believe that if it is a contribution to the Municipality certainly the Municipality must have a voice to spend in the way that they want to spend it. But as a matter of fact we find we have absolutely no power over even a single pie of this Rs. 4,000. All the same I find, if I can recollect, an instance of last year, that though a large amount was set apart by way of contribution to the Municipality of Ernakulam it was at last elicited that an amount of Rs.13,000 was spent in Trichur out of that amount.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There is a slip in the figure. That is because a part of the expenditure of 1105 had to be made in 1106. That expenditure increased the provision in 1106 Budget. Not that there was any cut in the Budget of 1107.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—What was intended to be spent, if it was a contribution, ought to have been spent in Ernakulam. There was absolute and dire necessity for spending it in certain drainage work. Was it undertaken? Was it not brought to the notice of the Government also that it was absolutely necessary even from the point of view of the D. P. W? Even then it was said that it was not necessary. But that amount was utilised for other purposes not in Ernakulam but in some other place. When we find that sums set apart for Ernakulam are being spent in another place can we say that it is a contribution to the Municipality of Ernakulam? It is not a mere terminalogy that is in question, but the intent and purpose for which the contribution is made. Judging by that I respectfully beg to differ from the Hon'ble Secretary in saying that a contribution for maintaining the trunk roads is tantamount to giving a contribution to the Municipality. One word by way of

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reply to the remarks made by the Hon'ble Member for Anthikad. He said that there was a large income from tolls in Trichur and that he is not satisfied with the way in which that money is spent by the Trichur Municipality. I have only to appeal to him not to judge of other Municipalities by his experience of Trichur, if he is dissatisfied with the way in which the money is spent. I do not think there will be anybody who will say that the realisations in Ernakulam are not properly spent or that they are mis-spent. I again submit to this House that as a matter of principle whether it be Rs. 5 or Rs. 10 or whatever that may be something in the shape of contribution to Municipalities must be provided at least to show that the Municipality is not a stranger to Government but a pet child of Government.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Does the Member put the point of division on the ground of necessity or principle. I am asking to know on which point the Member wants to divide the House. Does he put it on the ground of necessity as each case may arise or is it his case that there shall be a fixed grant to each Municipality irrespective of necessity or name. I should like to know that.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—As was said by the Leader of the Party it is not yet time for the Government to cease to make the contribution. That is the principle. With these words I press the motion to a division.

The motion was put and carried.

Motion No. 3.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 56,640 for Huzur Secretariat by Re. 1.*

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—The object of this motion is to express the regret of the House in the Government ordering that the cost of installation of meters to service connections in Ernakulam should be realised from house owners irrespective of the quantity of water consumed or used by them. I do not think it necessary to go over the history of this question. At any rate, it has come to pass now that though the Ernakulam people were for a long time, I say, deprived of the amenities of life in so far as they can get water in their own houses by paying for them was denied, it has now come to the state that if we spend some more money that amenity can be extended to all house owners who are willing to pay for them. Now it will be found on reading paragraph 9 of the Diwan's order, dated 22nd June 1931, "These figures appear to Government to be reasonable. Government have therefore decided that meter

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should be established in all houses possessing service connection as soon as possible. Meters to these houses will be supplied and installed by Government at a monthly rental of 4 as. should the house owners prefer this cost of paying for the meters themselves. Payments for metering house connections in future must be paid before the connection is given. The free allowance will be fixed in accordance with the recommendations contained in the Majority Report." The point that I emphasise here is that house owners who consume only water within the limits allowed by the rules are also liable to pay the same amount as those who exceed the limit and consume more. In other words, whether a man who has effected a service connection and also installed a meter is using more water than he is allowed to use or he does not use any excess quantity, both of them are equally liable for the payments regarding meters. I really fail to see why when the Government is installing or compelling the house owners to install meters to service connections it should insist upon persons who do not mis-use water also to contribute the thing. That is if after installing the meter, it is found that he is not using or mis-using water by extra consumption why should he be compelled to pay for a thing which is intended as a check for extra use. Therefore, what I say is, the realisation of the cost must be confined to those owners of service connections who do use excess quantity of water and not those who do not mis-use the water that is given to them.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Who wants to know?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I am glad the question is asked. Who wants to know? It is the Government that wants to know that.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—The tax payers.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Through the Government, I believe. It is those who want to know that should pay for the cost of knowing. Therefore what I say is if any measure is necessary to find out the misuse, certainly it ought to be enforced. The realisation must be only from those who do contribute to the misuse and not to the innocent. Therefore, on principle, namely one who is not misusing the water should not be compelled to pay. The cost must be borne by the person who wants the check to be imposed. I submit, there is sufficient reason for not compelling others also to pay, when only a certain section is misusing the water. It is to emphasise that principle that I wish to move this cut motion.

President.— Any other Hon'ble Member wishing to speak?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.— The motion has not been seconded.

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President.—Cut motions need not be seconded.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—It is not the practice here

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, after one motion for contribution to Municipalities, the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri, a most rural area, comes for another contribution to a Municipality, upon which, in the way of Irwin Park, Water Works, etc., the Government have spent lakhs and lakhs. I emphatically protest against these attempts to appropriate Government money for the purposes of Municipalities. Meters are intended to restrict the use of water. You cannot discriminate the ill—behaved and the well—behaved except by setting up some standard. The Government have to fix that standard. That standard is the meter. If there is no meter, you cannot discriminate. If the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri will convince me that there are other methods by which the ill-doers can be distinguished, I shall be glad to support him. We have to prevent the evil. Out of necessity therefore this small pin-prick has to be borne. I oppose the motion.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—As the Hon'ble Member for Anthikad has just said it is not possible to know whether a house owner wastes water unless it is measured. And for measuring we must insist on a meter. Once a meter is installed it follows as a business proposition that its value should be borne by the house owner who uses the water. And therefore, we say that either the meter should be installed at his cost or a small payment of 4½ annas per month must be paid by the house owner. The Government have been careful in fixing this small charge for a meter and I think the amenities afforded by water supply in one's own house is more than counterbalanced by this small extra charge of 4½ annas a month. I therefore think that no amendment to that order is really necessary.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Is it necessary for the new connection?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Though I don't press the motion for a division, I cannot help replying to one or two observations that have come from the Hon'ble Members. I am afraid some meter, in some form or other is necessary for checking misunderstanding. The Hon'ble Member for Anthikad seems to have thought that I have come for another contribution. Wherein he got that idea I fail to see because I never asked for any contribution in connection with it. My object was only to draw the attention of the Government to the inconvenience or injustice done to a certain section who certainly are not in the

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wrong. When it is found that they are not using excess quantity of water it must be presumed that they are not in the wrong. Then the next question is "How are we to know?" That is answered easily. Who wants to know? And for your knowledge are we to pay? That is the point that I wanted to emphasise, and for those who want to know the thing, certainly they are the proper persons to pay. I do not want to deprive the Government of that money because I readily consented that that should be realised from persons who are guilty. As to the liberal way in which allowances have been made as observed by my Hon'ble friend the Member for Engineering, I have a word to say. I want to know how he was satisfied with 15 gallons for Ernakulam, when for Anappara they wanted 50 gallons. A liberal use of water is certainly necessary for health and comfort. If the students who were to go to Anappara require at the rate of 50 gallons per head, how is he satisfied with 15 gallons for the students of Ernakulam? I fail to see.

Mr. K P. Kannan Nayar.—It is a different matter.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I beg leave to withdraw.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 4.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 56,640 Huzur Secretariat by Re. 1.*

President.—Mr. P. Krishna Menon.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Sir, this also is in connection with the meter. It is to express the regret of the House in the Government making an invidious distinction in the mode of realising the cost of installing meters in Ernakulam between house owners who have already effected service connections and those who are yet to effect. In connection with this I have only to point out again to paragraph 9 of the order, page 3. Payments for metering service connections must be paid before the connection is given, whereas for those who are installing meters, who have effected service connections already, there is the option given of payments in instalments of very very small amounts. I do not understand why that concession should not be extended to persons who are yet to have these connections effected. I say the persons have certainly not become richer in the course of three or four years and there is the additional fact that these persons who are yet to effect service connections have been repeatedly asking for it for the last four years or so and they have been denied. Is it for the patience with which they have waited for all this time they are given the additional privilege of payment in a lump?

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—Sir, I support the motion. Those who have service connections have now to spend only for

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the meter. But those who want new connection have to spend both for the connection and for the meter.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I also support the motion. In fact t is the rich people that have the service connection now and the poorer classes are now going to the public hydrants for water. If you are going to insist upon the full payment of the cost of the meter for those who are to have connections hereafter, it will be inflicting a punishment upon the poor people. The concession should be extended also to the poor people who are yet to have connections.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—On a point of information. We are treating this as a party question. No other Member in my party speaks.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.— As in all cases of innovations or new installations there are two kinds of people to be served. Those who have already invested in properties and those who have not. In the case of Ernakulam there are several houses having water supplied to them in the houses, and those who have not yet got have to be supplied. For those people who have already installed, who have already gone into the expenditure of installing water service connections in their houses, it would not be proper for the Government to ask them to install meters along with that, *i. e.*, to go into the cost of installing meters also. For that purpose Government proposed to install meters at their own cost and recoup that expenditure by means of monthly equal payments. For those who have not installed water service in their houses they should know what their payments are at the outset. And therefore they must pay for meters since it has been decided that meters should be installed in all houses. If Government adopts the other alternative suggestion, to install meters at their cost on all future service connections, they will be committing themselves to a position which is indefinite. We do not know now how many service connections there will be here or in Mattancheri. They will be committing themselves to a position which they do not know exactly at present. That means they will have to set apart a certain amount of money every year at the rate of two hundred or three hundred rupees a month.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—Put a definite period, say 5 years.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We cannot embark on schemes or commitments which are really indefinite. So the Government took the proper course and decided that those persons who have already got house service connections may be installed with meters, may be given the option of the Government installing the meters in their own homes And those for new house service should have meters installed at their own cost.

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Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Have you not got the total number of houses in the town?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We can find out that.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Why is it then that financial commitment is indefinite?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The number of houses will grow. Suppose all the houses demand meter. The number of houses may increase hereafter. Will this House recommend an indefinite commitment? We are going to extend this to Mattancheri and other places. Will this House recommend to the Government to commit to a policy which we do not know definitely?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—We cannot recommend an invidious distinction.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is not an invidious distinction. It is adopted in every place where there has been an innovation. Those who have a vested right have a right to be supplied with meters because they don't know that they would be committing themselves to that expenditure at the time they got the house service connections.

Mr. Joseph Petta.—Sir, is it not expedient in the interest of health that people should be encouraged to go in for good water and new connections? If the burden of providing meters is put upon people who want to have new connection, it will act as a great deterrent on them. And that is not in the interest of sanitation and health. Even if there be a technical difficulty in this question, in the matter of expediency and from the point of view of the health of the people, it will be better that the position taken up by us is approved by the Government.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Only one word by way of reply. To be frank I do not really find any difficulty as expressed by the Hon'ble Member for Engineering. Is it the difficulty of paying for an approximate number of meters that are to be provided or is it the difficulty of paying a lump amount to meet the cost of meters? I really fail to see where the real difficulty actually arises. But I can really see where the injury is. It is not difficult to get a hundred meters once in three months or so. For the time being every month or every quarter 100 or 150 may be got. It will not entail extra cost. If it is found in the course of the year that it is not sufficient, the Government can come for a supplementary grant. Practical difficulties I do not at all see. Practical injuries I can very well see. Who after all are the persons who are yet to effect service connections? Except the few rich who might have got service connections, all that are left without them, are the poorest of the poor. This additional burden

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which is now cast will act heavily on the poor and not upon the rich at all. The rich even at high cost have already effected service connections. It is those who were not able to effect the service connections during the early part—surely because of poverty or because of other difficulties they have not attempted to do so—that will be affected now. As a matter of fact, these people have not been able, for so many years, to do it. But they really deserve more sympathy at the hands of the Government than the additional burden which would certainly result if this rule is enforced. After all, if I remember correctly, the Department has already provided for 250 meters also for next year. Is there any reason to suppose that that will not be sufficient? When we are expecting to have a rural supply, no doubt, the necessity for meters may arise in Cochin. But as far as we can see, the present order applies to service connections in Ernakulam only. There will be enough of time to provide against this difficulty. In the immediate future no such difficulty whatever will arise, with regard to the uncertainty of the amount or uncertainty of the number of meters. Therefore in the interest of the most deserving, that is the poorest of the poor, I appeal to the House, to carry the cut motion.

The motion was put to votes and carried.

Motion No. 5.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 56,640 for Huzur Secretariat by Re. 1.*

President.—Mr. P. Krishna Menon.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Sir, in the light of the discussion that we had during the last few days I don't wish to press the motion which has reference to the retrenchment question.

The motion was therefore considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 6.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 96,498 for Huzur Secretariat by Re. 1.*

President.—Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—This motion I propose to place before this House to draw the attention of the Government as well as of this House to the inadequacy of the measures taken by the Government to tide over the present economic depression. The subject is of all absorbing and universal importance that, even at the risk of being accused of repeating a subject *ad nauseam*, I do not hesitate to move this cut. Sir, I do not fail to appreciate the anxiety of the Government to help the people as far as possible, and I was very much impressed by the

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assurance given by the Hon'ble Member for Revenue, who spoke yesterday while referring to the present economic depression, that Government would keep an open mind with regard to the various suggestions put forward by the non-officials of this House, and that if conditions come to a head during the coming two months and the Government are informed that they should resort to some drastic steps for helping the people, they will not fail to do so. That was an assurance which would give some hope to the public, that after all in their hour of woe, in their hour of affliction, they had the aid and help of an institution constituted for their welfare as the Government of the country. But that is no reason for me to withdraw this motion and fail to bring before the Government the sufferings of the people and the expectations of the people from the Government. Probably that will be helpful in making the Government understand that they have a duty to help the people and that they have to explore further avenues to do so. Their duty does not stop with the providing of some work for the poor people in the work of road construction, or in the matter of digging a canal or construction of a canal. Their duty does not stop there. My motion will have this use, that it will bring home to the Government that the suffering is there, the demand is there, the expectation of the people is there and Government have a duty to help the people. Various suggestions have been put forward before the Government in the course of the general discussion, and more than one non-official Member drew the pointed attention of the Government to the fact that the people expect some sort of relief in the matter of land revenue—some remission, some reduction, or some relief in the matter of collections is expected by the people from the Government. And was also urged upon the attention of the Government the necessity for intervention in the matter of kuries—this also is one line of relief, agitated for by the public. And then it was also brought to the notice of the Government that the public expected some relief from them in the matter of judicial proceedings for the realisation of debts, that judgment-debtors might be shown some concession. Some concession might be effected. Some facilities may be given in the matter of clearing up their debts when execution proceedings are taken against them by the Courts. I do not for a moment deny the fact that there are two aspects to the question when Government categorically stops the execution of the proceedings in the Courts of the State. People who have to realise their debts and who have to depend upon realisation of their debts will be put to inconvenience. I do not for a moment forget that fact. All the same there is a way of helping people also, if the Courts are inclined to properly exercise their discretion with greater care,

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with special reference to the present situation, I do not deny for a moment the Courts have that discretion. The Courts may be advised to have advertence to the present condition and then exercise their discretion in favour of helping the judgment-debtors. This is one suggestion of helping the people.

The House rose for lunch at 2 p. m., and met again at 3 p. m., with the Deputy President in the Chair.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Sir, as the Leader of the House, it is my great pleasure to heartily congratulate you on your obtaining for the first time the dignified Chair of the President of this House. I have no doubt, that under your wise and experienced presidentship the dignities and privileges of this Council will be most jealously guarded. (*Hear, hear*).

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Sir, on behalf of the Progressive Party, I have very great pleasure in felicitating you upon His Highness' royal boon, which has enabled one of the Members of this Council to occupy the exalted Chair this evening. We are sure, Sir, in view of your previous experience of this Council, you will fill your office with descretion and dignity that befits an august Assembly of this kind. We wish you all success here.

Deputy President.—Hon'ble Members, it gives me great pleasure in thanking you all for your kind reference about me. It is my first duty, from this Chair, to express our gratitude towards His Highness our beloved Maharaja for the boon conferred upon us.

Hon'ble Members, with your co-operation and earnestness in all our deliberations, I am sure, we will be able to prove that this boon is not a misplaced trust. Much has been said about the boon on the floor of this House for the last two days and I do not wish to reiterate them again here. I once more request you all to co-operate with me to bring the deliberations of the Council to a very dignified termination. With these few words I take my seat.

Now let us pass on to the business in the Agenda. Mr. Seethi may continue the discussion.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Sir, I was speaking to this Hon'ble House about the various suggestions that have been made for the consideration of the Government by the non-official Members of this House. I may submit in this connection that the present depression, the economic depression, is very keenly felt by the people in the matter of meeting the various pecuniary obligations into which they have entered long ago, keeping in view their purchasing power at that time. You will be pleased to note that the difficulty of our people lies in this, that none of

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our products fetch a good and reasonable price and hence their purchasing power has fallen very low. Rice, cocoanuts and the various by-products of cocoanuts have all fallen abnormally low in prices. The bulk of the people especially on the seaboard tract of the country, depended upon cocoanut husks for their living and cocoanut husks which used to fetch Rs. 20 to 21 per thousand are not fetching 6 to 7 rupees for a thousand. What will be the fate of hundreds of people depending upon this industry? The same is the case with those who depended on the price of cocoanuts. Cocoanuts which were fetching 6 to 7 rupees per hundred are not even fetching 2 rupees per hundred now. So the purchasing power of a citizen has fallen by ¼ of what it was a year back, but their financial obligations are even now the same as they were one year back, if not more. What would be the condition of the people when faced with such a difficult situation? The condition of the middle class people is absolutely pitiable. I should say that poor people are in a better condition than middle class people because they have got the old means of livelihood still available to them more or less. I can understand that the sufferings of the middle class would deprive the poor of the labour which they used to get under them and that way they are also likely to be affected; but wages have not fallen perceptibly, though I am sure the time would soon come when poor people also would share the same fate as others. What I respectfully submit is, with the abnormal fall in the purchasing power, the economic depression has landed in trouble over 95% of the population of the State.

How to get over this economic depression? I do not for a moment suggest that Government will be in a position to improve the world-wide economic affairs or to change the economic factors which are common to the whole world. But I cannot believe that Government are helpless in the matter of giving assistance to the people in these days. They can relieve the people to some extent by exploring markets for the produce of the land. The cocoanut produce of the country is not having a good market now. That is not the result of the present economic depression alone. The misfortune of cocoanuts commenced about 2 years back, if not earlier. The demand for cocoanuts gradually fell, and have we done anything to find out the causes for the same and to remove them? What I respectfully submit is this, that time is come, nay, time is long past to employ some agency who could explore avenues for marketing our products like copra, cocoanut oil, and coir. Foreign markets which used to import our goods are not open to us now. That is our chief trouble and even within India we do not find as good a market as we had before. Could not the Government employ an adviser for them to supply useful inform-

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ation about purchasers of these products in India or outside. I know the Mysore Government have got a Trade Agent in London. I do not contend that a special Trade Agent should be necessarily be employed in London. If we can manage our affairs in the matter of the deliberations of the Round Table Conference by getting the services of people who are employed by other States, we can as well seek the services of the Trade Agents of other States also to help us in our commercial needs. If we keep ourselves in touch with them they can give us useful information in finding out markets for our commodities. I respectfully beg to sumbit that this is a matter in which the Government can do something substantial instead of confessing their helplessness.

In this connection, Sir, I may with your permission present a petition which is addressed to the Members of the Legislative Council by about 300 people of the Cranganur and Mukundapuram Taluks. I request this House to recommend to the Government that immediate help should be rendered to those people.

According to the provisions of the Standing Orders I shall read to the House the prayers and reliefs of the petition. I am glad to inform the House that several prominent kuri starters have also joined in the petition. They have jointly prayed that Government may be pleased to suspend all the kuries or at least such kuries where the majority of the subscribers and the starters agree to the suspension. They also pray that in the matter of suits and executions some relief might be given to the people.

With these words I move my token cut and also present this petition for the consideration and acceptance of this House.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—സർ, ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ പിന്താങ്ങുന്നു. കുറിയെപ്പറ്റി എത്രപറഞ്ഞിട്ടും ശരിക്കുമെന്തു് മനസ്സിലാക്കിയതുപോലെ കാണുന്നില്ല. അതിന്റെ പ്രധാന കാരണം ശരിക്കുമെന്തു് മെമ്പർമാർ കുറിയിൽ ചേർന്നിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിൽതന്നെയും അവർക്കു് കുറി നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുവാൻ യാതൊരു പ്രയാസവും നേരിട്ടിട്ടില്ലാത്തതായിരിക്കണം. കുറി നിരുത്തുന്നതിനെപ്പറ്റി ശരിക്കുമെന്തു് പറയുന്ന വിഷമങ്ങളും കേട്ടാൽ, നാട്ടുകാർ കുറിമൂലം അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിനെപ്പറ്റി അവർക്കു് ഒന്നും അറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ എന്നുള്ളതിനു് വേറെ തെളിവുകളൊന്നുംവേണ്ടാ. ഒരു കുറിയുടെ ഉദാഹരണംതന്നെ പറയാം. പത്തു കൊല്ലംകൊണ്ടു് അവസാനിക്കാനുള്ള ഒരു കുറി എടുക്കുക. കുറെ ആളുകൾക്കു് കുറികിട്ടി. അധികംപേർക്കു് ഇനിയും കുറി കിട്ടാനുണ്ടു്. അങ്ങിനെയിരിക്കുമ്പോൾ ശരിക്കുമെന്തു് പൊന്നു കുറി നിരുത്തിവയ്ക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ മേലാൽ കിട്ടാനുള്ളവർക്കു് വിഷമം വരുമെന്നാണു് ഗവ

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മ്മെണ്ടു് പറയുന്നതു്. അടുത്തതവണ കുറി കിട്ടുമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടി അവർ എന്തെങ്കിലും ഏർപ്പാടു ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടായിരിക്കാം. അതു നടക്കാതെവരും. കുറിനടത്താതിരുന്നാൽ പലക്കും വിഷമം വരും. ഈ കൊല്ലത്തേക്കു നടന്ന ഒരു കുറിയിൽ മേലാൽ കിട്ടാനുള്ള ചിറ്റാളന്മാക്കു് ഈ കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ഒരിക്കലെ കുറി കിട്ടാനവകാശമുള്ളു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് കുറികിട്ടുമെന്നുള്ള തീച്ചവച്ചു് അവക്കു് യാതൊരു ഏർപ്പാടും ചെയ്യാൻ ന്യായമില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോർജ്ജു് ചാക്യാമുറി.—ലേലം വിളിക്കുന്ന കുറി അനെങ്കിലൊ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—പറയാം. ലേലക്കുറിയിലേക്കു പിന്നീടു ഞാൻ കടക്കാം.

കുറി ഉടനെ കിട്ടുമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശംവച്ചു് എന്തെങ്കിലും ഏർപ്പാടിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടാൻ തരമില്ല. കുറി കിട്ടുന്നകാലംവരെ നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകയും വേണം. ഇപ്പോൾ കുറി നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകാനുള്ള വിഷമംകൊണ്ടു് കുറി കിട്ടാത്തവരും വല്ലവിധത്തിലും അവരുടെകുറി നിറുത്തിവെച്ചാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നു ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് പറയുന്നതുപോലെ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നവരായി അധികം കാണുകയില്ല. കുറി നിറുത്തിക്കിട്ടാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നവരും ആവശ്യക്കാരുമായിരിക്കും അധികം. അവരുടെ വിഷമത്തിനു പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗം ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ചെയ്യുന്നതരേണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഏതാനുംപേക്കു് വിഷമമായി വരുമെന്നു വിചാരിച്ചു് ആ നല്ലകാര്യം ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ലോകത്തിൽ ഒരു ഗുണവും ചെയ്യാൻസാധിക്കയില്ല. (*hear, hear*)

ലേലക്കുറിയിൽ ഇന്ന തുകക്കു വിളികിട്ടുമെന്നൊ തനിക്കുതന്നെ കിട്ടിക്കൊള്ളുമെന്നൊ ഒരാളിനും വിചാരിക്കാൻപാടില്ല. എല്ലാവരും വിളിക്കാൻ ഒരുങ്ങിച്ചെല്ലുമല്ലൊ. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ലേലംവിളിയും ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചതുപോലെ കിട്ടുകയില്ല. മുസ്ലീം മെമ്പർ അദ്ദേഹം സമർപ്പിച്ച ഹരജിയിൽ കുറിവച്ചവരും കുറിയിൽചേർന്നവരുംതന്നെകുറി നിറുത്തി കിട്ടണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. കുറിയെപ്പറ്റി ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് എന്തെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യാത്തപക്ഷം കുറിമൂലം വലിയവിഷമം നേരിടും. കുറി അത്ര അധികംവർദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. കൊപ്രായ്ക്കും കയറിനും നെല്ലിനും നല്ലവിലഉണ്ടായിരുന്നകാലത്തു്, ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് ക്ഷാമം ഇല്ലാതിരുന്നകാലത്തു്, കുറികൾ ധാരാളമായി തുടങ്ങി. അതിൽചേരാൻ വളരെ സൌകര്യവുമുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ അകുറികൾ നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകാൻ കുറിക്കാക്കും ചിറ്റാളന്മാക്കും വിഷമമായിരിക്കുന്നു. അവക്കു ഒരു പരിഹാരംചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുകയാണു് ക്ഷാമകാലമായ ഇന്നു് ഒരു അത്യാവശ്യമായിത്തീർന്നിരിക്കുന്നതു്.

കൊപ്രായ്ക്കും കയറിനും വിലകുടുന്നതിനെപ്പറ്റി എന്തെ

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ങ്കിലും ഒരുവഴി ആലോചിക്കണമെന്ന് പറഞ്ഞ അഭിപ്രായത്തോടും ഞാൻ യോജിക്കുന്നു. എത്രലക്ഷം അതിനുവേണ്ടി ചിലവാക്കിയാലും വേണ്ടില്ല. ഒരു ഏജണ്ടിനേയൊമറെറാ നിയമിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ഒരുകണ്ടി കയറിനും ഒരുകണ്ടി കൊപ്രായ്ക്കും ഒരു രൂപാ കൂട്ടാൻ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു സാധിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ അതുതന്നെ എത്രലക്ഷം രൂപാ ആകുമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്നു? എത്രയൊ ലക്ഷംകണ്ടി കയറാണ്, എത്രയൊലക്ഷംകണ്ടി കൊപ്രായാണ്, ഇവിടെനിന്നും കയറി അയച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു്? നാം കൊടുക്കുന്ന സാമാനങ്ങൾക്കും വാങ്ങുന്ന സാമാനങ്ങൾക്കും പുറത്തുള്ളവർ വിലനിശ്ചയിക്കണമെന്നുവരുന്നതു് എത്രയൊ സങ്കടമാണു്? ഇപ്പോൾ നാം കൊടുക്കുന്ന സാമാനങ്ങൾക്കും വാങ്ങുന്ന സാമാനങ്ങൾക്കും അവർ വിലനിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നു. ഇതിനെല്ലാം കാരണം കച്ചവടം നമ്മുടെ കൈയ്യിലില്ലാത്തതാണു്. ഏജൻറിനെ നിയമിക്കുന്നകാര്യം കൊച്ചി ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനെക്കൊണ്ടു സാധിക്കയില്ലെന്നുപറഞ്ഞെയ്ക്കാം. അതു മുഴുവൻ പരമാർത്ഥമല്ല. അതിനു മൈസൂർഗവമ്മെണ്ടിൻെറഅടുത്തല്ല നാം പോകേണ്ടതു്. മലബാറിനെഭരിക്കുന്ന മദ്രാസ് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടും തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടും കൊച്ചിഗവമ്മെണ്ടുംകൂടി യോജിച്ചു് ഒരു ഏജണ്ടിനെ നിയമിച്ചാൽ മതിയാകും. അതിനു എത്രലക്ഷം രൂപാ വേണ്ടിവന്നാലും ഗവമ്മെണ്ടും മടിവിചാരിക്കരുതു്. അതിനു് എത്രലക്ഷം രൂപാചിലവാകും? അതിൽ എത്രയൊ ഇരട്ടിലക്ഷം നാട്ടുകാക്കു് ലാഭം വരും? റോഡുകൾ പുതുതായി പണിയിച്ചതുകൊണ്ടൊമറെറാ വലുതായ ക്ഷാമപരിഹാരം ഒന്നും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതല്ല. ക്ഷാമനിവാരണത്തിനു എന്തെങ്കിലും ഉടനെ ജാഗ്രതയായി ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് പ്രവൃത്തിക്കണം. ക്ഷാമം വർദ്ധിച്ചു വയറുപൊരിയുമ്പോൾ ജനങ്ങൾ, എത്ര മര്യാദക്കാരും, സാധുക്കന്മാരും, ആയാലും കള്ളന്മാരും, അക്രമികളും ആയിപ്പോകുന്നതു അവരുടെ കുറ്റംകൊണ്ടല്ല. പട്ടാളത്തിൻെറ ശക്തിക്കുറവുകൊണ്ടല്ല. പോലീസിൻെറ ശക്തിക്കുറവുകൊണ്ടല്ല. സഹിക്കാവുന്നിടത്തോളംകാലം ജനങ്ങളെല്ലാം ക്ഷമിച്ചുപോകും. ക്ഷാമം സഹിക്കാൻ പാടില്ലാത്തമാതിരി. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു തടയാൻ പാടില്ലാത്തമാതിരി. അനിഷ്ടസംഭവങ്ങൾ രാജ്യത്തു ഉണ്ടാകാൻ ഇടവന്നേക്കും. ഇപ്പോഴുള്ള രാഷ്ട്രീയ പ്രക്ഷോഭനങ്ങളിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നവരിൽ അധികവും തൊഴിലില്ലാത്തവരാണു്. പുരുക്കൾ ചിലർ മറുവിധത്തിലും ഇല്ലെന്നില്ല. തൊഴിലില്ലാത്തവരെക്കൊണ്ടു് രാജ്യത്തിൽ പരിഷ്കാരം നടപ്പാക്കാൻ പ്രക്ഷോഭനം നടത്തിക്കണമെന്നു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് കണ്ണുംപൂട്ടി അടങ്ങി ഇരുന്നുകൊള്ളുക. ബുദ്ധിയുള്ള ഗവമ്മെണ്ടാണെങ്കിൽ അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഒരു വിഷമഘട്ടം വരുന്നതുവരെ വെറുതെ ഇരുന്നു അതിൻെറ വിഷമങ്ങളെല്ലാം അനുഭവി

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ച്ചതിനശേഷമെ വല്ലതും വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യുകയുള്ളു എന്നു വിചാരിക്കയില്ല.

Deputy President.—The Secretary to the Council will read the petition.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Sir, I would request you, Sir, to fix a time limit in the matter of the discussion of the cut motions since there are a large number of motions and the business has to be gone through

Deputy President.—As far as the time limit for cut motions are concerned I would fix it at ten minutes for each speaker. I think that in the case of party questions, only one or two members will speak.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Is it a party question, Sir?

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—No.

Deputy President.—During the previous years the time for each member was, I think, fixed at ten minutes by the then Diwan-President and I would follow him in this matter. I am very glad to note that the request came from the Hon'ble Leader of the House, for I myself did not want to raise that point.

കൌൺസിൽ സിക്രട്ടറി.—ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട കൊച്ചി നിയമസഭാ മെമ്പർമാർ ബോധിപ്പിപ്പാൻ കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ മുകുന്ദപുരം ഇൗ താലൂക്കുകളിലെ പൌരന്മാരായ താഴെ പേരെഴുതി ഒപ്പിട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഹരജി.

ഇപ്പോൾ രാജ്യം ഒട്ടാകെ നേരിട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഭയങ്കരമായക്ഷാമനിമിത്തം ഞങ്ങളും ഇൗ നാട്ടിലെ മറ്റുജനങ്ങളും വലുതായ കഷ്ടപ്പാടുകൾ അനുഭവിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. നെല്ല്, നാളികേരം, ചക്കരി മുതലായ ഇൗ രാജ്യങ്ങളിലെ ഉല്പന്നങ്ങൾക്കു മുമ്പുണ്ടായിരുന്ന വിലതോതനുസരിച്ചു പലെ കാര്യങ്ങളിലും ജനങ്ങൾ ചേരുകയും ബാഹ്യതകൾഏറ്റ കടപ്പെട്ടുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതാകുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ മേല്പറഞ്ഞ ഉല്പന്നങ്ങളുടെ ഭയങ്കരമായ വിലക്കുറവുനിമിത്തം ഞങ്ങളുടെ വരവുകൊണ്ടു നിത്യനിദാനം വേണ്ട ആവശ്യങ്ങൾപോലും നടക്കുവാൻകഴിയാതെ വന്നിരിക്കുന്ന ഇൗ ഘട്ടത്തിൽടി കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ സംഖ്യവെക്കുവാനും കാര്യം നടത്തികൊണ്ടുപോകുവാനും ഞങ്ങൾക്കു തീരെ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതെ വന്നിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇൗ ഹരജിയിൽ ഒപ്പിട്ടിട്ടുള്ള ഞങ്ങളുടെ കൂട്ടത്തിൽ വലിയകാര്യം വെച്ചു നടത്തിവരുന്ന കൈക്കാരന്മാരും കൂടി ഉൾപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി പ്രത്യേകം ആലോചിക്കേണ്ടതാണു: കാര്യങ്ങൾ സമയത്തിനു സംഖ്യവെക്കാതെവരുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു കാര്യനിർവ്വഹണപ്രകാരമുള്ള പലെ പിഴകളും നഷ്ടങ്ങളും വഹിക്കേണ്ടിവരുന്നതും അതിനൊന്നിനും ഞങ്ങൾ ഒരു നിലയിലും കാരണക്കാരല്ലാത്തതുമാകുന്നു.

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ഈ ക്ഷാമകാലത്തു വ്യവഹാരങ്ങളും വിധി നടത്തുകളും സാധാരണപോലെ കോടതികൾ അനുവദിച്ചു വല്ലനമുതലായ കോട്ട് നടപടികളും നടത്തുന്നപക്ഷം എത്രയൊ കുടുംബങ്ങൾ തീരെ നശിച്ചുപോകുവാൻ ഇടയുള്ളതാണ്. ഈ വിഷമഘട്ടം കഴിയുന്നതുവരെ മേൽപറഞ്ഞ സംഗതികളിൽ കക്ഷികൾക്കു കൂടുതൽ ഇടയും സൌകര്യങ്ങളുംചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു കോടതികൾക്കു ഉപദേശം നൽകാത്തപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾ വല്ലതായ കഷ്ടപ്പാടിലകപ്പെടുന്നതാകുന്നു.

അതുകൊണ്ടു മാന്യന്മാരായ നിയമസഭാംഗങ്ങൾ ഭയവുണ്ടായി (ക) കരികൾ മുഴുവനായൊ കരിഭൂമിയിൽ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം അംഗങ്ങൾ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്ന കരികളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചെങ്കിലുമൊ അവയെ നിരുത്തി വെക്കുവാനും (ഖ) കോടതികൾവഴിക്കു വിധികടങ്ങൾ വസൂലാക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ കടക്കാർക്കു കൂടുതൽ സൌകര്യങ്ങൾചെയ്തുകൊടുപ്പാൻ നിയമകോടതികളെ ഉപദേശിപ്പാനും ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനെ ശുപാർചെയ്യുവാൻ വണക്കമായി അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

എന്നു പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു പ്രമേയം പിൻവലിച്ചു.

Mr. Paul Mampilly.—Sir, I rise to support the motion. Now whatever may be the evil effects of the economic depression on the people, the necessity for the grant of some sort of relief is conceded by the Hon'ble the Revenue Member in his speech yesterday. Now my object is only to answer a point raised by the Hon'ble Revenue Member. In my budget speech I advocated a reduction of land tax so that some sort of relief may be given to the poor agriculturists who are hard hit by the present economic depression and the Hon'ble member for Revenue has said that at present there is no need of giving relief in that direction. He seems to have suggested that if a reduction is made, that concession will not benefit the class of persons who really need the help. He was saying that a large portion of the State is contributed by rich jenmies and not agriculturists.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—I never said so. I never said that the jenmies do not require any help at all. Any amount of help given to them would only be welcomed by them.

Mr. Paul Mampilly.—Then of course there is no point in the reply given by the Hon'ble Member. If the jenmies own the land, it is possessed and cultivated by tenants. I say that if a reduction is made in the land revenue it can be brought home to the poor peasants by a reduction in the amount of rent they have to pay to the jenmies.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Not in all cases.

Mr. Paul Mampilly.—At least in some cases it will prove beneficial.

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Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—How?

Mr. Paul Mampilly.—I wish to explain how. If the Government effects some substantial reduction in the land revenue, the tenant will be benefited by the reduction. The tenant need pay only a less amount of rent to the jenmi. The amount of reduction of tax need not be paid to the jenmi. The Government by some law or proclamation provide that the benefit really reach the peasants and there can be no harm in doing so.

Rao Sahib Mr. T.V. KasturiRanga Ayyar.—It is justifiable to compel the jenmies by any legal enactment to give reduction?

Mr. Paul Mampilly.—Some law might be made for it. The present difficult circumstances really need it. Then another reason advanced by the Hon'ble Member is that the price of cocoanuts and other produces of the land at the time the tax was fixed, was below the rate prevailing now. The Hon'ble Member has not taken into account the cost of cultivation and also the prices of the daily necessaries of life and also the higher standard of living prevailing at present. I hold that in all these respects the cost has not gone down as the value of the produces of the land has gone down.

Rao Sahib Mr. T.V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Wages of coolies, please.

Mr. Paul Mampilly.—Wages have not gone down like the price of the produce.

Rao Sahib Mr.T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—The price of seed?

Deputy President.—The Hon'ble Leader of the House can include all these things in his reply. I think it would be better not to interrupt.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Thank you, Sir.

Mr. Paul Mampilly.—Considering the very difficult times the Government must find their way to give substantial reduction in land revenue. The other points have been elaborately dealt with by my other Hon'ble friends. So I do not wish to dilate upon the same subject.

Mr. Joseph Petta.—Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support this motion. Of course, it is true that Cochin by itself cannot devise radical cures for the economic depression which is world wide. Yet, one outstanding feature, or perhaps the very nature of the economic depression to-day, is that it is not so much the work of Nature as it is the work of Man. We have not had any bad seasons, nor has there any natural calamity befallen us. This economic depression on the contrary, has been

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brought about by speculative over-production in certain cnetres as also by a dislocation, in the advanced world, of the money mechanism. Since it is the work of man I think man himself can do something to remedy the situation. If the Government, in consultation with the Members of this House, would really make an endeavour at devising measures, I am sure they could do a good deal in the shape of remedies which may not be complete remedies, but would serve as palliatives at least.

Mr.A. Sankara Menon.—What remedy would the Member suggest?

Mr. Joseph Petta.—The Hon'ble Member for Muslims has already suggested some lines along which the Government might act. Even on those lines I am sure the Government might do a good deal. The outstanding feature of the economic depression in Cochin has two aspects. One is that the prices of our agricultural products have gone down considerably. The other thing is that the prices of the articles we have to buy from foreign countries, have not gone down. Even if there is any reduction at all, it is only very slight. Therefore we have to pay the same or very nearly the same as we used to pay in the pre-depression days; while what we receive has gone down a good deal. Therefore the line of relief is clear. The first step in this direction would be to see that our agricultural products get higher prices. That is the line in which the Hon'ble Member for Muslims has argued.

In these days all progressive countries and all advanced Governments spend large amounts of money on proper advertisement. Advertisement is the very life blood of business. Even the other day, His Highness the Yuvaraja of Mysore, in his reply to an address presented to him, emphasised the fact that there is a good deal in advertisement. In England and other countries Empire Exhibitions and such other things are carried on mainly for the advertisement of their goods. It stands to reason therefore that here in Cochin also the Government ought to take the initiative in this matter because it may not be possible for any private agency to take up works of this nature. Another thing is that the Government may encourage the production of indigenous articles which might take the place of the costly foreign articles that we are buying today. To give just one instance, the Government might grant more licenses for the tapping of sweet toddy, which might encourage the manufacture of jaggery, an indigenous commodity which could replace foreign sugar to some extent. So also other home manufactures could be encouraged so that the money now spent on costly foreign articles may remain in the country and increase the purchasing power of our people. Here again, the

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Government has to take the initiative just as they have done in other countries, since here, too, it is not possible for any private individual to attempt anything very substantial for obvious reasons. Again, we have pointed out a few directions in which some relief might be granted to the poor agriculturists. And these are directions in which the Government can act. It has been urged here by the Hon'ble Member for Revenue that we have probably reached the very worst of the depression and that perhaps we are on the upward move. I would, the prophecy turned true. That however, makes the Government's position easier. For, if any relief is contemplated on this score, it would be only *temporary*. The Government need not be afraid that it would be a permanent measure. Our only request is that so long as there is depression some relief might be granted. All over the world the cry is for relief and if we peruse the papers it could be seen what Governments in other countries are doing and have done to relieve the people in distress. The other day in the small State of Kapurthala in the Punjab remission was granted substantially in the matter of land revenue. Again, the Hon'ble Member, the Secretary to the Diwan, was pleased to say, in connection with the Government's going to the money market for a loan, that that would be a great disadvantage at present because the money market is tight. It would be more so when the poor agriculturists have to go to it.

Now, when it was urged that funds could be found in many ways for the relief of the poor, say for example, by a general cut in the salaries of the higher officers of the State, the Revenue Member characterised it as a very desperate measure. He twice referred to it as desperate. A ten per cent cut in the salaries of all Government servants drawing more than Rs. 200 would not be a desperate cut at this time. (*Hear, hear*). And I am sure the Government would do it as a matter of grace since this House has no power to compel it. The whole of the State, the whole body of people are looking up to this Council with great expectations; and if we do not do anything in this matter it would be a great disappointment for the people who are anxiously watching our proceedings here. And if the Government do anything of this kind in the matter of their own salaries, I am sure the whole country would be grateful, because that will be an index of their good hearts. It may not be a great amount. Still so far as the Government Members are concerned the people will say that they have correctly appreciated the situation in the country and are willing to relieve the poor people.

However, the Hon'ble Member for Revenue was pleased to say that the Government are keeping *an open mind in the*

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matter. The only thing is that they are not convinced that the time is come to effectively intervene in the matter. If it be so, I would recommend to this House the formation of a Vigilance Committee of this House to keep the Government informed of the course of the depression in the country from time to time. And it is to be hoped that when this Committee shall be able to convince the Government of the very seriousness, of the very gravity of the situation in the country and the imperative urgency of immediate action, the Government will not hesitate to do something *tangible* in the way of granting reliefs. With this suggestion, therefore, to the House and with this hope I resume my seat.

George Chakyamuri.—Sir, representing a constituency that has been most affected by this current economic depression, I regard it my duty to support the motion put forward by the Hon'ble Member for the Mussalmans. As has been just remarked by the Hon'ble Member for Adoor, the Revenue Member suggested the other day that the Government is keeping an open mind in this matter. I am sure the mind of the Government will ever remain open. As a matter of fact when very important and urgent motions and questions of public interest are brought forward in this House the very ordinary reply, the very usual reply, that is given by the Government to get over the difficulty is that we are always keeping an open mind and if circumstances would permit we would act. I cannot think of a more depressing situation in the finances of the subjects of the State than what we have come to just now. I have an intimate knowledge of the state of affairs going on in these parts of the State and I may assure the Government that if the Government is waiting for the situation to go worse that would land them in a position when the situation would become uncontrollable. To say the least, famine has actually set in especially in the parts which are mainly concerned with cocoanut and its subsidiary industries. Speaking for my constituency, I would try to bring to the notice of the House the very acute suffering the people are undergoing just now. The main industry in my constituency is coir industry and when the conditions were different I could with pride say that these parts of the State were perhaps the most flourishing for the following reason. The coir industry being a kind of cottage industry every member of the family could take part *i. e.*, the head of the family, the ladies, the children and everyone could take part in it and normally an average family used to make a rupee or two every day. And now on account of the fact that cocoanut and coir have absolutely no market we have got the whole place fortified as it were by tons and tons of cocoanut husks and not one of these pits could be

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opened since the husks would not fetch half the price for which they have been purchased. They are there for the last 1½ years and almost all the poor people in the villages are sitting quite without any work and literally starving. I say the Government cannot expect the situation to be worse. They cannot wait for a worse situation. I earnestly believe that the time has really come for action on the part of Government if the Government would ever act.

With regard to the remedies suggested I think it won't be within the province of practical politics if these poor people are asked to wait till we appoint a trade commissioner or we ask the Mysore Commissioner to co-operate with our Government to find out ways and means. All that would be too late and beside the point. I would request the Government to draw upon the reserve and start immediately some relief works as a temporary measure. It is not that I do not agree with the Hon'ble Members in thinking that it is the duty of the Government to find out markets for our products elsewhere but all these will take time and I believe the situation is acute enough that the time has come for the Government to take some immediate action. I would repeat once more that time has come for the Government to draw upon the reserve and start immediate relief works at least in areas that are mostly affected by this economic depression, particularly the Cochin-Kanayannur and Cranganur Taluks. I suggested this idea before the Standing Finance Committee and requested the Government to provide at least a lakh of rupees this year for emergency works to be undertaken. Of course I am aware that a lakh of rupees will not be sufficient to meet the present requirements. My idea was that some immediate relief can be given in places that are most seriously affected. And of course gaining time in that way Government can certainly think of other methods such as finding out markets for our produce and improving the trade of the country. With regard to the idea of having a trade commissioner or to co-operate with the Mysore Commissioner or having a general Commissioner for Madras, Cochin and Travancore Governments I would also suggest that if we cannot send a Trade Commissioner to England or elsewhere it would be advisable for our Government to send our representatives at least to Calcutta and Bombay. I know, as a matter of fact, some of our produce finds a good market in those parts and these gentlemen deputed there will be able to advise the Government at least with regard to the trade in these things. I particularly refer to the business in prawns which find a very good market in Calcutta, Rangoon and other Indian Cities.

I also wish to offer a few remarks with regard to the

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remedies suggested by the Hon'ble Member for Musalmans and contained in the petition just now presented to this House. Certainly they are very valuable suggestions. But I do not know whether it is free from very many practical difficulties. No doubt, as I submitted, the situation is acute enough for the Government to act. But I do not know if the Government will be justified under the present circumstances in interfering with the private contracts of parties by stopping kuries that have been started by the free consent of several parties. It will not be justifiable for more reasons than one. While granting relief to some it would invariably cause hardship to others in very many cases. I know as a matter of fact that many of the people have joined the kuries with the idea of bidding or drawing prizes for paying of outstanding obligations in times of emergency. If these kuries are now stopped after perhaps 5 or 6 years of subscribing, I am sure all these people will be ruined and the investments which they have made so far will be a huge waste.

With regard to the prayer contanied in the petition for stopping decree executions and staying of suits I should regard them as more fantastic than any thing else. It would only serve to create unemployment among the vakils and according to my friend Mr. Ayyappan unemployment is the root cause of all agitations and they may be tempted to make political agitations here also.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know, Sir, whether the Member for Muslims intend to divide the House on the remedies suggested or on the general question that the Government ought to take some steps and do something effectively ?

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.– On the inadequacy of the relief measures afforded to the people. That is the point for division.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, I oppose the motion. I do not see my way to agree with the remedies suggested by the mover and repeated in the petition presented to the House. As the Member for Palliviruthi has said, the stopping of kuries or similar encroachments on the right of private contract between party and party are practical propositions. Nor do I think that the time has come now for the Government to take an extreme step like that. We are having a repetition of the days through which the State passed during I think, the years 1092, 1093 and 1094. Only the causes are different. During these years the prices of various commodities had gone up by leaps and bounds. You could not get a para of paddy for a rupee or a rupee and a quarter. This time prices have gone down, rather too low. Whatever the causes be, there is suffering through out the land.

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The suffering is not confined to Cochin only. Cochin is only a very small slice of the whole world. The depression is world wide. It is not either Indian, Asiatic or European. It is world-wide.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—It is well known.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Very good. I am glad to hear that. They ought to have known it and if they had known it, they would not have made the suggestions that are before us. The depression is world-wide and when the depression is a world-wide one to suggest such remedies as have been suggested here is rather fantastic. Cochin has only 1600 odd square miles and out of that there is a habitable area of only 7 or 8 hundred square miles. Are we going to treat Cochin as if outside the pale of the whole world? I do not think it is practicable to have separate remedies for small Cochin. We must move with the world, see what the world is doing and take necessary steps accordingly. It is not Cochin alone that grows cocoanut trees. British Malabar, Travancore, Java and the Philippines own limitless acres of the cocoanut palm. If some remedy is not adopted by them we also cannot adopt any remedy. The paddy that Cochin produces is infinitesimal compared with the paddy produced outside. In the matter of paddy and all other cereals whose prices have gone down, except following the measures adopted by countries similarly affected, Cochin independently cannot do anything. The price of paddy went up in 1093 and 1094 not because of any trade Commissioner. Prices were then inflated by artificial means by merchants. Prices have now gone down either by the artificial means resorted to by the merchants or by the stringency prevailing in the financial market throughout the world. To control the operation of such forces by measures passed in this House is, to say the least, not possible.

But we can do something. We can provide relief by relief measures. Before suggesting some of the measures I would bring to the notice of the House certain figures with regard to the position that the country was in 1104 and 1105. The number of mortgages have increased by about 2000.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—On a point of information, Sir, may I know from where the Hon'ble Member got these figures?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—From the Administration Report. Did not the Hon'ble Member go through it? All these are in the Administration Reports.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I asked this because I saw the Hon'ble Member reading from an exercise book.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—That is my private book. The Hon'ble Member need not pry into it.

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In 1104 the number of mortgages was 19601. The number of mortgages in 1105 was 21077. Registered money bonds rose from 451 to 482. These show increase of indebtedness. The Government can help the people in several ways. The Government have been saying that they are very anxious to reduce the consumption of liquor. That will go a great way in improving the economic condition of the people. Government have been saying that they were always trying to reduce consumption. But what do we find? The number of cocoanut trees tapped for liquor was 63,713 in 1104 and 67,013 in 1105. An increase of nearly 3500! What about arrack? In 1104, 49,184 gallons; in 1105, 51,272. Of course, this does not indicate prosperity. It shows that the people are becoming desperate. When people become desperate, naturally they take to drink to soothe their feelings. All these show how poor the country is growing. The Member for Excise should misunderstand that this increase in the sale of liquor is not a good sign. It indicates poverty and economic unhealthiness.

Sir, I shall suggest a few relief measures. In 1092 and 1093 the then Diwan Mr. (now Sir) J. W. Bhore undertook relief measures such as the construction of the embankments and bridges and the opening out of canals and roads. There are at present several parts of the State in which relief measures of that description can be introduced. In the coastal regions, which are hardest-hit by the economic depression, the Government will do well to open a net-work of roads. The coastal tracts now possess very few roads and roads can be opened in those areas with advantages. Facilities for water communication are at present very poor. The Government ought to open some canals. In the matter of irrigation, irrigation projects are considered year after year. The Government have been saying that they have got several schemes. I would only request them to take up one or two schemes and work them up. These are the proper days to launch such schemes.

Before concluding I may refer to the Kole problem. We have to find out money for all that. The money spent for the improvement of and for providing facilities for Kole cultivation is really a capital investment. In regard to this problem the Government have been considering it actively from 1095 onwards. The Government appointed a Committee; the Committee reported; Government deliberated over it; corresponded with Travancore Government; referred the matter to Chief Engineer after Chief Engineer; and now in 1106—ten years after the Committee reported—absolutely nothing is seen done. This is not the way to help the cultivators. In this time of

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economic depression what the State can do is to help the cultivators to cut down the cost of production.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—What is the produce for ?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—To eat.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—When one Hon'ble Member is speaking another should not interrupt speaker the by asking questions sitting. He must stand up and ask. That is the usual practice.

Mr. K. Ayyaypan.—If it is only an interruption. It is not necessary.

Deputy President.—Every Member must stand up even if it is a suggestion. It is my ruling.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—However, I do not want to be interrupted by so many Members, when I am speaking. What I say is this. If you spend some money to make the Kole cultivation cheaper, then the cultivators in turn will be able to sell cheaper. Now, if they are able to get 8 annas per para of paddy they have to spend 8 annas for producing it. That does not make a successful cultivation. If you do something to help the Kole cultivators by means of irrigation facilities they will be able to produce at a lesser cost and to sell cheaper. Thereby they can withstand to some extent the economic depression.

Deputy President.—The Hon'ble Member's time is over.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Sir, I wish to ask the leader of the Progressive Party whether it is a party question.

Mr. A Sankara Puduval.—It is not.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Then I wish to ask the Hon'ble Mover of the motion on what point he wants the House to be divided. We divide the House only when there is a difference of opinion. Is it on account of the inadequacy of the relief measures actually undertaken by the Government till now, or whether he wants to divide the House on the inadequacy apprehended by him of any measures that may be undertaken hereafter. If he would clear the position, I shall give a categorical reply. There is not much to be said. There cannot be any difference of opinion in fundamental matters. I only want to know whether there is any necessity to divide the House and whether it is on the past action or on the future programme. I wish he will categorically reply to my question.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Sir, the point of division is this. I feel that the Government have not adequately tackled with the present economic depression by considering or trying to put into action the various suggestions put forward by the public

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and request that adequate relief measures should be undertaken. That is the point on which I want the House to be divided.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Well, I said before that there could be no difference of opinion. I think that the very beautiful speeches that we heard to-day are repititions or paraphrases of what we heard yesterday and day before yesterday. All that could be said in respect of the useful suggestions now made have already been said in the speech I made yesterday, in reply to the criticisms made during the general discussion of the budget. That reply covers all the points. I said that the Government always kept a very open mind. We do not want any cuts to open our minds. Then in regard to land revenue, you know Sir, that the collection for this year has practically ended, and, the collection of next year will begin only two or three months after. During that period we will be watching things. There are only a few days more for the new year to come in. Then, as the year proceeds, if it is found that there is widespread distress among the people and among the agriculturists and if their produce does not find any market, I said that all possible sympathy would be shown towards the agriculturists. Here it is only a question of funds, as it indeed is in many others. We will do the needful if there is any real necessity. We will be watching the conditions very very carefully for the next two or three months.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Have the Government known that there are many lands lying fallow now?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Is it due to the economic depression of 1106? Lands lie fallow in the best of seasons. I know of one case of a beautiful land being allowed to lie fallow owing to the quarrel between two brothers. One will say 'I do not want this land! The other also will say that "I do not want to take up this place for cultivation". Therefore allowing lands to lie fallow, need not necessarily be due to the economic depression. So far as the Government are concerned, our aim is more or less like yours, as I said yesterday because we are all remunerated from the same source, the annual produce of the labour, intellectual and physical, of the people. We are in no way a separate entity from the people. The Government, though here it may not be theoritically, by the people, it is for the people. There is no question about it. I had elaborated that point yesterday. What is the policy of the Government? We have absolutely no interests of our own distinct from those of the people. In the matter of measures to be taken to remove or mitigate the economic depression, certainly no one will be glader than the Government to abate that could be promptly done.

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Then with regard to kuries and decree debts the House is divided. One set of lawyers who are very well posted in these matters urge that it is not necessary and that it will work havoc. Another set of lawyers content that it is a matter of urgent necessity. We keep an open mind. If you will all come forward and put forward some practical suggestions certainly why should not the Government consider them? Why should there be a division at all, if we all can join together and take concerted action? Therefore, we must consider both sides of the question. Whatever that is most advantageous to the people, the Government can have no objection to do. It must always be remembered that we are not a separate entity. So that even with regard to the proposed moratorium, we will watch the state of things. I told the House that I am somewhat optimistic. Let us see what the whole world is doing. They are trying to improve matters. I trust that Hon'ble Members read the newspapers and keep themselves in touch with what is going on in the outside world. They might have observed that serious endeavours are being made everywhere to remove the depression. Let us watch the progress of events. United States of America, Great Britain, Germany, France and other great countries are all putting their heads together to devise means to eradicate the great calamity. We are watching them and let us watch and see how they do. Whether any desperate remedy, such as a moratorium suggested for putting off kuri payments and the execution of decrees, is necessary that need not be considered at present. With regard to the other remedy, starting of relief works that is suggested by the Hon'ble Member for Palluruthy, I would like to put one or two questions to the Hon'ble Member. May I know how he proposes to spend the one lakh of rupees? Does he mean to distribute it among the poor or by undertaking some relief works or by any other method? The Hon'ble Member has not made that point clear. I do not also find any reference to it in the Proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee. Will he kindly give the House information on this point?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—My suggestion therefore is that the situation, as far as I know, in these parts is very acute. Very many poor people are sitting idle and starving. What I would suggest with this one lakh of rupees is to open some roads or canals directly undertaken by the Government, without entrusting the work to the contractors. This will afford some immediate relief by way of work to the poor people. Since in those parts there are very many urgent works to be undertaken by the Government, it will also be a kind of good investment from the Government stand point.

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Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—I would like to put another question to the Hon'ble Member for Narakkal, whether he will give some idea about the present rate of cultivation?

Deputy President.—It will be very difficult for us to proceed if the Hon'ble the Leader of the House put such questions to individual members and take away the time of the House.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Only one minute, Sir, and I will proceed.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—The present rate of cultivation is much larger than that which prevailed at the time when you fixed your land revenue.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—What is the Hon'ble Member's idea?

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—If you want the exact figures I cannot give you at the present moment. I believe that the whole House will bear with me when I say that cultivable expenses have twice or thrice grown from what it was at the time when tax was fixed.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—On a point of order, Sir. The Hon'ble Member for Revenue, the Leader of the House, was putting questions to private Members here to obtain information on points about which the Government must be possessed with the information, i. e. about cultivation and all those things. The Government must be able to give us the information.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Then I have only to say that the question of adopting remedial measures is a matter in which there can be no difference of opinion. We have made our position very clear yesterday. There are only very few days more in Karkadagam 1106; the year 1107 is just going to come after 10 or 12 days. Before revenue collections for 1107 begin after two or three months, conditions may change. Let us watch the developments.

Then there is the practical suggestion made by the Hon'ble Member for Adoor. The best thing will be for the Progressive Party to constitute a small and effective Vigilance Committee, as proposed by the Hon'ble Member, who should keep themselves in touch with their constituencies, ascertain their requirements and watch the agricultural conditions, etc. I only supplement the suggestion made by the Hon'ble Member for Adoor. The Hon'ble Members on the other side should keep themselves in close touch with the agriculturists, watch their conditions very carefully and furnish the Government with periodical reports, say, once in a fortnight, on the actual state of affairs, facts and figures. Of course, we will also be watching the conditions very carefully. In order

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to supplement what we do and in order to verify our information it will be a very useful thing to act in co-operation if the Hon'ble Members of the Progressive Party under the leadership of my old friend the Hon'ble Member for Trichur, will join together and form themselves into a very effective, useful and zealous Vigilance Committee. Such a Committee has great possibilities for useful work and they can bring to our notice cases where there is acute distress and where immediate relief is called for. Our interests and aim are the same as theirs, *i. e.*, to help the people. We want the people to live and we also want the people to be fed. In a matter like this there is no clash between the people and the Government.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I also beg to support the motion.

Deputy President.—The Member cannot speak, after the Government Member has made his reply.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—That was the practice here.

Deputy President.—That was ruled by the President himself this morning.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—By way of reply I have not got much to say. But I would like to say a word or two about the surprise that I caused to the Hon'ble Member for Pallurutty and the Hon'ble Member for Anthikad by putting forward fantastic suggestions, according to them. I do not know why these suggestions should have been looked upon as fantastic. If they were present here in this House yesterday they would have heard the Hon'ble the Secretary to the Diwan saying that in the Travancore Chitty Regulation there is a provision that if a majority of the subscribers and the starters of the kuri agreed to a suspension of the kuri they are entitled to do so. If that is so there is absolutely nothing fantastic about the suggestion to have the same arrangement enforced in our State also. While my Hon'ble friend the Member for Anthikad, says that Cochin is a point in the whole Universe I am entitled to say that that point in the Universe can set an example to the other points. (Hear, Hear.)

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—A point of explanation, Sir. Before I started I put the question whether the Hon'ble Member wished to divide the House on the suggestions made by the Member. The word 'fantastic' was not used in connection with this but with regard to the appointment of the Trade Commissioner and all that. It has nothing to do with this.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—So it does not relate to the suspension of the kuri and the other suggestions I made?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I do not consider them to be practicable.

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Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Even on the question of practicability my remarks with regard to the existing practice in Travancore will apply. In view of the observations made and the assurances held out by the Hon'ble Member for Revenue on the floor of this House, I do not think there is any necessity for dividing the House on this motion. We can wait and see how the attitude of the Government helps to alleviate the sufferings of the people. We can bring this motion before this House again if the public do not have a reasonable amount of support from the Government. Sir, with the leave of the House I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion No. 7.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 16,267 for IV—Legislative Council by Re. 1.*

As the motion was not moved it was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 8.

As the following motion was not moved it was also considered withdrawn.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 20,157 for IV Total—Legislative Council by Re. 1.*

Motion No. 9.

The mover being then absent the following motion was also considered withdrawn.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,54,100 under demand No. 14 by Re. 1.*

Motion No. 10.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 82,483 under demand No. 14 by Re. 1.*

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ട്മോഷന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശം കമ്മേർഷ്യൽ സ്കൂളുകളിലുള്ള മാസ്റ്റർമാ
ർക്കുമാത്രമെങ്കിലും കച്ചവട കണക്കുകൾ പരിശോധിക്കുവാനുള്ള
അധികാരം കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു ഗവൺമെന്റിനോട് അപേക്ഷിക്കു
ന്നതാണ്. അതിനുള്ള പ്രധാനകാരണം കച്ചവട കണക്കുകൾ
സാധാരണയായി ഓരോ കൊല്ലം കഴിയുന്തോറും രീതികൾ മാ
റിമാറിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതായി എനിക്കു നല്ല അനുഭവമുള്ളതുകൊ
ണ്ടുതന്നെ. എനിക്കു ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ കുറച്ചുകാലത്തെ പരിചയ
മുള്ളതുകൊണ്ട് ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി പറയുവാൻ ഒരു പ്രത്യേക അവ
കാശമുള്ളതിനാലാണ് ഞാൻ ഇതു പറയുന്നത്. സാധാരണയാ

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യി ബോംബെയിലും മദ്രാസിലും കച്ചവടക്കമ്പനികൾ ആഡിറ്റ് ചെയ്യുന്നവരാണ് കമ്മേർഷ്യൽ കോളേജുകളിലെ പ്രൊഫസർമാർ. കച്ചവട വിഷയത്തിൽ അന്നന്നു ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന മാറ്റങ്ങൾ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളെ പഠിപ്പിക്കുവാനായിട്ട് അവരുടെ ഈ നിയമനം അവരെ വളരെ സഹായിക്കയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. ഒരു കൊല്ലമൊ പതിനഞ്ചുകൊല്ലമൊ മുമ്പു് ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന രീതിമാത്രം മാസ്റ്റർമാർ കുട്ടികളെ പഠിപ്പിച്ചാൽ മതിയെന്നാണ് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു വിചാരിക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ ഈ ആർഡർ വളരെ ശരിയായിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. അതല്ല അന്നന്നു ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന മാറ്റങ്ങൾ, മാറിമാറിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നരീതി, ലോകം മുമ്പോട്ടുപോകുമ്പോൾ അതിനൊത്തു ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന രീതി അനുസരിച്ചു് കച്ചവടക്കണക്കുകൾ കൊച്ചിരാജ്യത്തും മുമ്പോട്ടുപോകണമെന്നു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു വിചാരിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം കമ്മേഷ്യൽ മാസ്റ്റർമാർക്ക് കച്ചവടക്കണക്കുകൾ പരിശോധിക്കുവാനുള്ള അധികാരം വീണ്ടും കൊടുക്കണം. ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു കൊടുക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടുള്ള ചില വൈഷമ്യങ്ങൾ എനിക്കും അറിയാം. അങ്ങിനെ കമ്മേഷ്യൽ സ്കൂൾമാസ്റ്റർമാർക്ക് ആ അധികാരം കൊടുക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു വരാവുന്ന വൈഷമ്യത്തെക്കാൾ അധികം ഗുണം വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്കു ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഞാൻ ഇതും പറയുന്നതു്.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I wish to second this motion and in doing so, I do not propose to speak much as almost all the reasons in support by it have been advanced by the learned mover. The only point he left out according to me, I shall speak about. It is this. From a practical standpoint if the commercial teacher is allowed to do private auditing works, he will be able to keep himself in touch with what is going on every day and with the changes that are taking place in the system of keeping accounts. In addition to that he will also be enabled to put his pupils in touch with actual keeping of accounts. For illustration, the auditor generally asks his pupils who are studying in the higher classes to help him in his audit work. These students get an opportunity to audit accounts under his direction and immediate supervision. That will be giving them an opportunity to do practical work. It will be only helping the boys in getting opportunity to do practical works before they pass out from the school. With these words I whole-heartedly support the motion.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, the reasons which induced the Government to pass this order should first be explained. First and foremost they thought that in giving a free rein, as it were, in this matter to the Government Teachers, it might prejudice their work in their schools. They are full-time teachers and if they are allowed to take up private works also

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indiscriminately it would create a tendency of shirking work in the school and running after private work.

Another reason that weighed with the Government in issuing this order was that it was thought improper for a Government official to get mixed in private companies and their affairs. It was thought that it would be much more decent and proper for Government officials as far as possible to get out of private concern and never to get mixed up. There may be occasions for misunderstandings; and on that account and to guard against them it was thought better not to allow them to have a free run in the matter. More than all this, there are any number of private auditors in the field. And why should the Government go and intrude into their vocation? These were a few of the reasons that weighed with them in issuing the order. And I am not quite sure whether forbidding teachers to undertake private work will deprive them of the chances of keeping themselves abreast with current work or with current methods of audit. They have to teach these things in the schools and they must be prepared with the most up-to-date methods of preparing balance sheet.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—For practical work?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—For practical work, just as in the case of the professors, whatever work they want, they should do themselves. All the same, the point will again be reconsidered and we don't say that we are impervious to any suggestion at all. Government will again review the situation once more. What I said just now was by way of explanation of the reasons that induced them to pass such an order. Since the Members have raised the question now, it will again be reviewed. That is all what I want to say.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—സാധാരണ മറ്റുവിഷയങ്ങളെപ്പോലെയല്ല ഈ വിഷയം എന്നു പൂർണ്ണ ധാരണ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഞാൻ ഈ കട്മോഷൻ കൊണ്ടുവന്നതു്. മാസ്റ്റർമാർക്കു് പ്രൊഫസ്സർമാരെപ്പോലെ പരിചയം നേടാമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതു ശരിയല്ല. പുസ്തകം വായിച്ചതുകൊണ്ടുമാത്രം പരിചയം ഉണ്ടാകാത്ത ഒരു വിഷയമാണിതു്. അതിനു് കൺതോർത്തന്നെ സാക്ഷിയാണു്. ആ കാര സംഗതി നല്ലവണ്ണം അറിവുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഞാൻ ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഇത്രബലമായി വാദിക്കുന്നതു്. ഈ സംഗതിയെപ്പറ്റി ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു പുനരാലോചന ചെയ്യുമെന്നു സമ്മതിച്ചതിനാൽ ഞാൻ ഈ കട്മോഷൻ പിൻവലിക്കാൻ അനുവാദം ചോദിക്കുന്നു.

The motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion No. 11.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 82,483 under Demand No. XIV by Re. 1.*

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Mr. M. K. Raman.—Sir, before I move the cut motion, I should like to get one information, so that that will decide whether I should move the cut motion at all. I understand that there is an order from the Government now, that the sons and nephews and relations of old officials should be given preference when new applicants come in for Government appointments. And yesterday I heard the leader of the House also say that qualifications being equal, an applicant of the unrepresented community will be given preference. I want to know whether this order will not be enforced even if the other applicant is a relation of an old official. My point is this. There was the assurance given yesterday that when the qualifications being equal, preference will be given to applicants from the unrepresented communities. The other order that sons or relations of Government Servants will be preferred to outsiders, i. e. when the sons or relations of officials come, whether they would be preferred to unrepresented community members—I want to know that. Will the Government kindly give me an answer?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—All that I would say is that the two orders have been laid down on two different principles altogether. The order regarding preference to unrepresented classes have for obvious reasons been issued. The other thing, regarding the sons or children of Government servants being also given preference has been issued on a different principle altogether. I cannot say for certain what would be the result if a conflict arises in which these two cases come up for mutual discussion. I can only say that due weight will have to be given to both the circumstances in order to satisfy the different circumstances. There is really no conflict. These two orders have been issued on two divergent principles. They do not ordinarily clash but when they do clash individual circumstances will have to be considered before a decision is made.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—That means that I have to move the Motion, because it is a well-known thing that certain communities are only beginning to get education. You have been for some reason or other not giving enough facilities for education and if you insist upon this rule that sons and relations of old officials would be given preference, I do not know where the unrepresented community will have to go. The very fact that we have been given preference over others shows that our fathers or uncles had no place here and the Government wants to do away with this inequality. So my request is that the salutary principle laid down by the Government, that when there are applicants of equal qualification, members of the unrepresented communities will be preferred, have to be given effect to, even though our rivals happen

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to be relations or sons or nephews of persons who are or were holding appointments. Even now the complaint is that appointments are given to their relations or persons in whom they are interested. And if that is given valid recognition by an order of the Government, my submission is that it will seriously affect so far as the unrepresented communities are concerned. I request the Government that so far as the backward and unrepresented communities are concerned they should be given preference first and relationship should not be taken into account. And when applicants come from the same community, one having an uncle or father or somebody in service, then the other principle may be worked into if found necessary. Even that I do not think is proper.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I support the motion and I have to add that the practical effect of giving effect to this order will be to create an official oligarchy in the State. Already my friend, the member for north Ezhuvas, has complained that certain communities have got predominance in the services and hereafter if their children alone are to be given preference, certainly the order that unrepresented communities will get preference will absolutely be of no avail. One gentleman from the already over-represented community means putting it at the average five or six in the embriyo. I should characterise this as an attempt to perpetuate the official oligarchy now existing. There is already an official body in the State from a particular community and if their children are to get appointments in preference to others no body else can ever hope to come in. There is no manner of justification for such a rule. There is however one point always advanced in support of this position and that is when people who have been serving the Government for some time are dead and have not provided anything, their children must be taken care of by the Government. To my mind that will be creating a kind of socialistic state, as my friend the Director of Public Instruction the other day referred to in the House. Government servants have got a right to be protected. But their children and cousins have no claim upon the Government. It is their duty to provide for their relations if they care. The duty of the Government is not only confined towards the Government servants but also equally towards other citizens of State. Government must be impartial towards both classes. I believe this order is the result of regarding over-service on the same footing as those parts of the world where Government service is looked upon as mere service and not as a matter of right. In our State, Government service means power, and every community has a right to share that power. In England and other places Government servants are actual servants

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dependent upon the will of the nation. There therefore such a rule may not work great hardship. Here Government service means first and foremost power and every community has a right to share in it. It is not mere service. As a matter of practical illustration, in our State between the Diwan, the Police Commissioner and the District Magistrate almost the whole sovereignty is exhausted. The sovereign function of the State is exhausted between these three officers. All the functions done by others can be managed by a limited concern or a Joint Stock Company.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Even justice;

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—So that this order is calculated to work very serious havoc and I believe, in the interests of the communities that are not represented in the service, this order must be immediately removed from the Statute Book. The complaint is that persons already in power give preference to their relations. With the sanction of the order behind their back, nobody has any chance of getting into the Government service. And I would characterise it as a very iniquitous order whoever be responsible for the same, an order passed without calculating any of the consequences that would come to the unrepresented communities. I would urge on the Government the immediate necessity of removing this order and I would even go to the extent of dividing the House on the point if need be.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I too support the motion. May I know the wording of the order newly promulgated? Is it relations, sons, any restriction?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Only sons, to the best of my recollection.

Mr E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, sons may include daughters. If the rule says only relations it will create great difficulty in its working in the case of Marumakkathayan family. In that case if I am a member of the Government service, there will be 250 members coming forward claiming preference.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Only sons. It is not in the general Standing Order or in the general statute book. All these criticisms will be noted as they are brought to the notice of the Government.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, my submission is that this rule is highly objectionable. It will perpetuate the appointments in certain families. The complaint is that all the Government appointments are monopolised by a certain class till now. Hereafter it will be monopolised by certain families in the State. (*Hear, hear.*) My submission is it is highly objectionable. All the points against this order were raised here and I do not propose to reiterate them. It is certainly inconsistent with the

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salutary order promulgated by the Government that unrepresented communities should always be given preference. In any event, there is absolutely no justification in not giving preference to that order which has been passed first.

Mr. Joseph Petta.—Sir, I beg to support the motion and I do so for the simple reason that an official oligarchy is injurious to the best interests of the State. The whole experience of history shows that wherever there has been an official oligarchy in the case of a nation, there has been very unpleasant developments; and, therefore, even here in Cochin, a little State, it would be undesirable if we develop an official oligarchy. From the point of unrepresented communities the point has been pressed. But even the point of those already represented in the services I think it would be better to have an infusion of new blood to keep up the tone of the administration. Therefore, even from the standpoint of the communities which are represented, I think this order will be highly objectionable.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—I am suprised to find there is an order. I never knew that there will be such an order in a civilised State like Cochin. I have heard that in former days when the oligarchy was prevalent in certain States such principles were adopted. But my impression was that our State was far highly civilised and that there will be no distinction between people whether they are sons of the officials or not. I have heard a Malayalam verse:

"പണ്ടച്ചൻ ആനപ്പുറമേറിയെന്നാൽ,
ഉണ്ടാകുമോ പുത്രനും തഴയ്ക്ക".

Somehow or other some people might have got into the service. There is even now a general complaint that the people are getting into the service through the back door especially in the case of those who are the children of Government officials. If there is such an order like this it will only facilitate their entrance into the service and it will be shutting out the doors to those who were unfortunate to be the sons of those who were leading an independent life. Therefore the sooner we wipe out the unjust order the better for us. Therefore I am very glad to support this resolution and I hope the House will unanimously oppose the order.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ—ഇതിനു് നേരെ വിപരീതമായ ഒരു കല്പനയാണു് ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കേണ്ടിയിരുന്നതു്. അതായതു് ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ മക്കൾക്കു് ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുത്തുകൂടാ എന്നു് അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു കല്പന പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കണമെന്നല്ല പറയുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു കല്പനയുടെ ആവശ്യം ഇല്ലാതെയുമല്ല. കാരണം ഇന്നത്തെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ നായർക്കുന്നു അധികവും സ്വന്തക്കാരെയാക്കുന്നതുതന്നെ. പുത്രവാത്സല്യം എ

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ല്ലാവക്കും ഉള്ളതാണ്. ശുപാർശയും ബന്ധവും നോക്കി നിയമ ച്ചു പോവുന്നതും സ്വാഭാവികമാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ മക്കൾക്കു് ആ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ഉള്ള കാലത്തും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ മരിച്ചതിനുശേഷവും ഉദ്യോഗം കിട്ടാൻ വളരെ സൌകര്യമുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു് അവക്കു് ഇപ്രകാരം ഒരു പ്രത്യേക സൌകര്യം വെച്ചുകൊടുക്കാൻ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു് ഒരിക്കലും ആവശ്യമുണ്ടായിരുന്നില്ല. അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു സൌകര്യം ഉപയോഗിച്ചു് അവർതന്നെ സർവ്വീസിൽ കടന്നുകൂടാതിരിക്കാൻ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു വിചാരിക്കേണ്ടതായിരുന്നു. ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ മക്കളെന്നവെച്ചു് ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുത്തുപോകരുതെന്നു പറയുന്നതും സങ്കടമായിരിക്കും. ഏതായാലും ഈ കല്പന ഉടനെ റദ്ദു് (cancel) ചെയ്തേതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. ഇന്നു ഹൗസിൽ ഒരാൾപോലും ഈ കടുംമോഷ്ടനു് എതിരു പറയാതെ എല്ലാവരും അനുകൂലിച്ചു പറഞ്ഞതിൽ വളരെ സന്തോഷിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള കായ്ങ്ങളിലെങ്കിലും ജാതിവാദം വരാതിരുന്നതു് ഒരു ശുഭസൂചകമായി കരുതാം.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—One word, Sir, in support of the motion. It seems to me to be an administrative recognition of the private or secret influences that were working here to bring into the service men who were either relations or sons of those who were already in service. Such an order is unsuited to the present times especially in a State like Cochin. In a country like England, which sends out its men to distant places like India, where service in a far off climate is regarded, rightly or wrongly, more as a sort of sacrifice than as a lucrative profession, the order may be justified. Here in our land where Government service is taken as a very desirable job, I am of opinion that h re is absolutely no need or justification for such an order. The net result of the order will be as the Me ber for Adoor has remarked, to perpetuate an official oligarchy which is extremely undesirable.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know which is the earlier of the two orders?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—The order regarding unrepresented communities.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I also take this opportunity to support this motion. It is an old saying that the wearer knows where the shoe pinches, for I belong to a community which is most unrepresented in the State service.

With regard to one doubt, expressed by the Hon'ble Secretary, namely, whether any clash has arisen between the working of these two orders, without mentioning names, I will inform this house that clash has already arisen. An officer was

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at a loss to know which order is to be given preference to. There was actually a case and in that particular instance I am glad to inform the House that the officer concerned had the discretion and good sense to give preference to the member of the unrepresented community. So the clash has risen. I would, therefore, urge not only to issue orders to give preference to the older order but altogether to do away with the new one at least for some time till the balance is restored, by having an appreciable percentage of unrepresented community being brought into service. Nay more, at least for some time, it is absolutely necessary that a prohibitive order that sons of officials shall not be appointed be promulgated by the Government.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.— As to the probable conflict in principles this is the first time that it has come to the notice of the Government and secondly Government has no objection at all to note upon it and act once more upon the views now expressed. As to the cancelling the second order, I cannot be so clear or make any promise or a declaration. But the wishes now expressed and the criticisms now levelled shall be noted.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I move that the question may now be put.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—The second order will not be acted upon at the expense of the first. There may be cases like this. Let us take the Ezhuva community, and there may be applicants either from a Nayar, or from a Brahmin, or from two Ezhuvas. Of the two latter if one happens to be the son of an official, he will be given preference over the other. The second order will never be enforced against the fundamental principles laid down in the first. The second is only an administrative order. An administrative order can never militate against the general order.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I press the motion to a division because I do not think Government have been able to give a satisfactory answer for the proposition that is put forward. No Member in this House has raised any point of objection. In fact every Member was unanimous in supporting me. And that shows how urgent the necessity is to remove that order, if there is any, which entitles the sons of the officials to get an appointment in preference to an outsider. I remember there were certain instances some time ago namely that a humerous gentleman put in an application to the effect that a post may be given to him which is not found to be necessary for one or two families in Cochin. That is some post which they are not in need of may be given to him. If the present order is held in force, the state of circumstances may be reduced to that. I request all the Members to unanimously vote for me.

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Deputy President.—What is your point of division ?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Point of division is that the unrepresented communities should be given preference to, in respect of appointments and the preference that is given to the sons of the officials should be removed.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—The second order may be immediately cancelled.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Yes, the order giving preference to the sons of Government officials may be cancelled.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Would it not do if preference is given to the other order ?

The motion was put to votes and carried.

Motion No. 12.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 82,483 under Demand No. XIV by Re. 1.*

Mr. M. K. Raman —My next cut motion is to point out the necessity of stopping the sacrifices of animals in public places by a similar order as the one which prohibited the singing of obscene songs. We are very much obliged to the Government for the very enlightened step taken by them in stopping the singing of obscene songs in public places.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Stopped ?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Yes, don't you know the singing of obscene songs is already stopped? I am only asking the Government to extend one step further and to stop the inhuman practice of making sacrifice of animals in public places. Government can very easily do that, so far as in those public places which are actually now in the control of the Government. Again so far as the Government temples are concerned, which are also public places, it lies with our Government to do away with the practice easily and I don't think any man who has a little humanity in him, can raise any objection. We want that you should not continue these superstitious and cruel practices which are most inhuman and uncivilised. So I do not advance any argument in support of this. I request that by a similar order as to the other, the Government may be pleased to put a stop to the sacrifices of animals or birds or other living beings.

Mr. Poptlal Lalan.—I second it. It is a great pity that in our civilised State this kind of system is carried on. Even in our sister State, in Travancore state, the merciful Regent has stopped it. I believe that the House will also agree to it and our Government mercifully prohibit or stop the killing of these poor animals. These poor fowls and animals are killed in the name of the Goddess. Is it not a pity that in the name of the Goddess and in such a holy place we find sacrifices of a great many fowls whose necks are thrown after sacrifice in the air? Is

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it not spoiling even the sanitation of the town? Considering all the circumstances it is also a great shame to our State when the outsiders come and visit this kind of sacrifices in our State. So I humbly request the House and all the Hon'ble Members that each and every one will support the motion.

Mr. Joseph Petta.—On a point of information. I should like to know whether in the order prohibiting the singing of the obscene songs there is the mention of the word "public places". Does that term here also, in this cut motion also, includes temples under the management of the Government? Will they be included under the term public places?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—That will be a question of law.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I cannot understand what it really is. I would request the Member to enlighten me.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I will answer the Member for Adur.

Deputy President.—That is only a point of information.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I want this to be applicable to all those places to which the other of the Government is applicable i. e., all those public places where the singing of obscene songs is prohibited.

The Member for Pallivirutti wanted to know what is being done in the temples. It is rather a difficult thing to describe, actually what is being done there. The neck of the fowl is cut and the blood is poured on the Goddess or stone whatever it is, somewhere in a public place. The whole place is filled with blood and after sometime it will be emitting a most obnoxious smell. My request is that this awful practice should be stopped. If I say, in private places also the killing of fowls should be stopped, there may be some practical difficulty. That is why I emphasise only public places. Which all places are meant is very clear from the fact that the Government did not feel any doubt when they published the previous notification "of the singing of obscene songs in public places".

Mr. Joseph Petta.—I press for information whether the first order includes temples managed by Government and if so temples where such sacrifices referred to are made. Do they also come under the term public places?

Rama Varmha Tampuran —So far as the first order is concerned I think it means public places like roads, markets, etc. I don't think it applies to the inner precincts of temples. As to the exact definition of public place, I confess my inability. It is a debatable point.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—So far as temple precincts are concerned, and so far as that particular section of that particular community is concerned it is a public place. Where there is no

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right to refuse entry to anybody, that is a public place in a limited sense and to a limited extent.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Slaughter houses? They say it is being done in public places in the temple premises. Will the order prevent killing in slaughter houses?

Mr. Joseph Petta.—Am I to understand therefore that the places in temples where usually sacrifices are made is a public place to a limited purpose?

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—That is a place where a particular section of a community has a right to go. I don't know whether everybody has a right of entry there. All these people coming from outside go there and take their fowl. That is a public place in a restricted sense. They must have a right to go there.

Mr. Joseph Petta.—I would like to know from the Hon'ble Member whether he intends stopping all sacrifices in public places.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I do.

Mr. Joseph Petta.—Whether public would include in law, a section of the public going inside the temple and whether it is public place so far as that section is concerned.

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—I am upon that. The motion is to be confined to Government temples. Otherwise it will require modification if it should apply to other temples.

Deputy President —Any body wishing to speak?

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—We are on a point of order. Section 11 of the Council Regulation says "it shall not be lawful for the Legislative Council to consider and to enact a measure regarding Devaswams belonging to or under the control of the Government". I am inclined to think that it does not come within the purview of the Council. I don't know whether we can consider it here.

Deputy President.—It does not come within the purview of the Council under section 11 (1).

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—He wants to apply it for sacrifices in temples. I am afraid it is not within our guidance. The Government Advocate will perhaps enlighten the House so far as that matter is concerned. I think it does not come within our guidance. Not that I do not appreciate the sentiment. but I don't know whether we are entitled to consider that. Public road is a very different matter.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Sir, I beg to point out that the time is nearing,

Deputy President.—4 minutes more. All the other motions will lapse.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—One word, Sir. It does not certainly come under section 11 (1). We are not legislating

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for Devaswams. We are simply saying in public places we should not conduct such sacrifices. The motion is simply that.

Deputy President.—The Hon'ble Member for Anthikad said in public places. But the mover said it is within the temple. Thus there is some difficulty.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—May I submit one word with regard to that. Section 11 says "It will not be lawful for the Legislative Council to consider and enact any measure relating or affecting Devaswams belonging to or under the control of the Government". My respectful submission is that my resolution has absolutely nothing to do with Devaswams. What this has to do with Devaswams I fail to see. I am not enacting any measure affecting or relating to Devaswams. My motion is that the sacrifice of animals in public places should not be allowed and when the question was put by the Member for Adur which all places are public, then I gave the answer that by the word public places I meant all those public places which are intended by the previous notification. If the previous notification includes interior of temples, this also refers to it.

Deputy President.—Anyhow we have to put the whole demand minus Rs. 3 under General Administration to the vote of the House. We have no time. In one day one head must be finished.

The following motions lapsed under Rule 49 (2) of the Regulation.

Motions Nos. 13 and 14.

13. Mr. M. K. Raman.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 82,483 under Demand No. 13 by Re. 1.*

14. Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 82 483 under Demand No. 14 by Re. 1.*

Question put:—*That the demand of Rs. 82,483 under XIV —General Administration minus Rs. 3 be granted.*

The Demand minus Rs. 3 was passed.

The House rose for the day at 5 P. M.

C. J. MATHEW,
Secretary to the Council.

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